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13 MAY 1955

Fifteenth Annual Report

OF

THE PROVINCIAL MARKETING BOARD

**Department of Industries
and Labour**

GOVERNMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

1953

Submitted by
GEORGE A. CLASH
Chairman.



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PROVINCIAL MARKETING BOARD
ANNUAL REPORT - 1952

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Marketing and Marketing Boards

PROVINCIAL MARKETING BOARD

ANNUAL REPORT — 1953

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EXTRACT FROM
THE ALBERTA MARKETING ACT

(1939, C 3, s 1)

Revised Statutes of Alberta, 1942

Volume III, Chapter 253

An Act respecting the Marketing of
Natural Products and other Commodities
and to provide for the regulation thereof
within the Province.

THE PROVINCIAL MARKETING BOARD

(1) "For the purpose of providing producers, manufacturers, distributors and consumers in the Province with the means of buying and selling goods, wares, merchandise and natural products at a price which is fair and equitable, the Lieutenant Governor in Council may constitute a Board to be known as "The Provincial Marketing Board", which shall be a body corporate and shall be empowered to buy and sell and deal in any goods, wares, merchandise and natural products, or any of them whatsoever, either by wholesale or by retail, or both by wholesale and retail, and to act as a broker, factor or agent for any person in the acquisition or disposition of any goods, wares, merchandise or natural products, and for the purpose to do and transact all acts and things which a natural person engaged in a general mercantile business has the capacity or the power to transact.

(2) With the approval of the Lieutenant Governor in Council the Provincial Marketing Board is empowered to engage in any or all of the following businesses, namely, manufacturing, producing, processing, handling or distributing of any goods, wares, merchandise or natural products, and incidentally thereto, to acquire by purchase or otherwise any land or any other property required by the Provincial Board for the purpose of or incidental to any such business and to do and to transact all acts and things which a natural person engaged in any such business has the capacity or power to transact, including the borrowing of money for any of the aforesaid purposes".

THE PROVINCIAL MARKETING BOARD
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIES AND LABOUR
GOVERNMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

Edmonton, Alberta,
December 31st, 1953.

To:

Honourable N. A. Willmore,
Minister,
Department of Industries and Labour.

Sir:

It is my privilege to submit herewith the Fifteenth Annual Report of the Provincial Marketing Board for the year ending December 31st, 1953, together with report of:

- (a) Expenditures approved by the Board as Agent of the Government of the Province of Alberta, in connection with the construction, operation and maintenance of the Oil Sands Project at Bitumount, Alberta.
- (b) Acting as Agent of the Minister of Public Works by authority of Order-in-Council No. 369/47, report of proceeds of sales for the year ended December 31st, 1953.
- (c) Financial Report of Marketing Services Limited (a wholly owned subsidiary of the Provincial Marketing Board) for the year ended December 31st, 1953.
- (d) Financial Report of Prairie Woollen Mills, Limited (a wholly owned subsidiary of the Provincial Marketing Board) from January 1st to December 31st, 1953.

The Financial Reports referred to above have been prepared and audited by direction of the Provincial Auditor.

THE PROVINCIAL MARKETING BOARD

POLICY OF THE BOARD

1. To encourage the development of Alberta by promoting industrial enterprises for the utilization of our natural resources.
2. To assist industries, through the mass buying of raw materials.
3. To sponsor, manage and operate industries within Alberta for the utilization of our natural resources.
4. To assist in the distribution of the products of Alberta and by direct contact to make the people of Alberta familiar with the merits of Alberta-Made goods.
5. To assist farmers of the Province to reduce production costs by making available to them machinery parts and other supplies essential to farm production, at low prices.

SCOPE OF REPORT

In keeping with the range of the activities and responsibilities of the Provincial Marketing Board, this report is divided into the following Sections:

- A. Activities relating to production.
- B. Buying Policies.
- C. Selling and Promotional Activities.
- D. Implement Parts Distributors.
- *E. New Industrial Development.
- F. Trading Activities—All trading activities during the year under review were conducted by the Board's Sales Division and by its wholly owned subsidiaries, Prairie Woollen Mills, Limited and Marketing Services Limited. The Provincial Auditor's reports and financial statements covering these activities are submitted with this report.
- G. Comparative Tables of Statistical Data.

* (See note on Page 22)

A.—ACTIVITIES RELATING TO PRODUCTION

During the year 1953, the Provincial Marketing Board continued to extend assistance to Alberta Industries.

An uneasy period of negotiation finally resulted in a truce in Korea, ending active fighting and bringing about a welcome exchange of prisoners of war. The truce was not followed by any marked reduction in the expenditures being made by the Governments concerned, and the year end finds the prospect of an early Peace Treaty very doubtful. Some controls over the import of materials from the U.S.A. were lightened, a few discontinued and business South of the Border closely approximates pre-war (Korea) standards.

The Government of Canada maintained a heavy programme of public works across the country during 1953 and Defence Production (1951) Limited, a Crown Corporation, continued the development of plans based on requirements of the Armed Services. Such spending contributed to high employment and wages, which caused a natural increase in wholesale and retail sales.

GENERAL REVIEW

Buying on credit reached new heights during 1953. A prominent Canadian banker voiced the opinion "The pace of credit demand is excessive to the supply. Bank loans are going up faster than deposits. Canadians have more than tripled their mortgage debts since 1945 and the upward trend of consumer credit is dangerously high. The rise in consumer credit outstanding increases our vulnerability to a collapse in consumer spending. Present momentum should carry on into the first half of 1954 but from then on, conditions will largely depend on the consumer paying his way instead of mortgaging the future by the use of instalment payments spread over long periods".

Early in 1953 floods in the Lethbridge-Medicine Hat area followed a very wet Spring. Seed was washed from farmlands at a time when the possibility of re-seeding appeared doubtful. Despite this poor start, further hindered by a season which had a minimum of sunshine, agriculture throughout the Province had a very good year. The Fall weather, particularly in the months of September and October, contributed to the ripening and harvesting of crops to an extent which a few weeks earlier could not have been anticipated by the most optimistic observer.

European recovery came to attention through the number of enquiries received from manufacturers in England, Belgium and Germany, anxious to enter the export field. For example, a Belgian manufacturer of motor driven lawn mowers requested and was given information as to possible wholesalers or Co-operatives likely to be helpful or interested in becoming importers and distributors. An English manufacturer required assistance in placing a skid mounted pumping unit of large size in Canada. This had been destined for Iran but could not be shipped due to the unsettled conditions in that Country. German and Swedish manufacturers displayed more than ordinary interest in their desire to bring their wares to the attention of Alberta purchasers.

Carefully graded immigration policies continued to bring newcomers to the Province with knowledge and skill of value to their new homeland. These persons, added to the natural increase of Albertans, raised the population of the Province above the One Million mark during this year.

Steel ceased to be a major problem to industries **STEEL** in Alberta during 1953. Supplies were adequate, controls were lessened or terminated and prices on some lines in heavy demand were lowered during the Third Quarter. The year-end found most of those industries in close touch with the Provincial Marketing Board carrying satisfactory inventories or assurance that bookings for the First Quarter of 1954 will be met.

Sheet Metal was in increasing demand over 1952 **SHEET METAL** but all requirements were met. English metal continued to hold its high position in this market. No difficulty was experienced during 1953 in relation to this commodity.

Aluminum was available without difficulty in **ALUMINUM** all industrial forms. A price reduction as high as 20% on some types during the summer months was disturbing to some industries who were carrying large inventories. However, much of this reduction has been restored and a further increase now under consideration may almost restore the previous price level.

Wool prices fluctuated during the early part of **WOOL** the year in Australia and New Zealand but held firm in the closing months. There was a marked absence of American participation. The constant discovery of new synthetics and plastics, most frequently in the U.S.A., has increased the competition against articles and garments formerly exclusively made of wool or wool products and this form of competition will increase. Cotton interests in the U.S.A. were responsible for a very successful campaign during 1953, building up denim as a material for universal use and this undoubtedly gained much of its sales and popularity at the expense of articles made of or containing wool.

Oil has ceased to be exciting to Albertans but none **OIL** can fail to appreciate the benefits which all enjoy because of it. Even when reduced to statistics, as published in this Report, the wealth obtained from this source, the employment directly caused by it and the probability of their continuance indicate the importance the Oil Industry has in the economy of the Province.

A reduction in exploration work by the major Oil Companies was felt in many lines of contributory businesses. There were fewer seismographic crews operating in Alberta in 1953. Some of these had been moved East where interest had been aroused by successful oil drilling in Western Manitoba and Eastern Saskatchewan. Ever since the opening of the Leduc Field in

1947, Oil spending has been on an increasing scale and many subsidiary types of businesses looked to its continuance for their principal source of support. Exploration and development drilling are being continued on a more widespread plan.

Production figures quoted in the statistical pages of this Report indicate a satisfactory increase over previous years, in spite of wells being under quota control. Completion of the Trans-Mountain Pipeline opened new markets to Alberta producers, and the early extension of the Interprovincial Pipeline from Superior, Wisconsin to Sarnia, Ontario will enable an increased volume to be shipped through this line. The extended line will stretch 1765 miles from the Alberta source, being the longest crude oil pipeline in the World. The potential capacity of the two pipelines from Alberta, Interprovincial and Trans-Mountain is 700,000 barrels of crude oil per day. This figure exceeds the total consumption of crude oil in Canada daily, at the time of writing. It will require the bringing in of new wells and continued exploration for the discovery of new fields to produce this enormous quantity of oil per diem. No concern, therefore, need be felt over the mild recession in the general oil picture during 1953. There can be no doubt that a satisfactory and high level will be maintained in 1954 and the years which follow.

While cement has not been produced in quantities adequate to the demand at all times, there has been less difficulty during 1953 in assisting industries to obtain supplies. No practical forecast can be made for the coming year since so much depends on Provincial highways programmes, Federal and Provincial construction and new housing projects. It is probable the demand will continue to exceed local supplies but that deficiencies can be met to some extent by imports.

CEMENT

During 1953 assistance was continued on a varying scale to:

INDUSTRIES ASSISTED

1. Furnace manufacturing.
2. Automatic Coal Stoker manufacturing.
3. The manufacture of Rock Wool Insulation.
4. The importation of steel for manufacturing requirements.
5. The importation of pumps and prefabricated buildings and tanks for the Oil Industry.
6. Acquirement and distribution of cement for the manufacture of cement blocks and concrete culverts.
7. Acquirement of Raw Wool both by direct import and domestic purchases.
8. Purchase of Liquid chemicals for manufacture.
9. The Irrigation Industry.
10. A Brick Making Plant producing a special type of facing brick.
11. The Oxygen and Acetylene Industry.
12. The Concrete Sewer and Drain Pipe Industry.
13. Extruded Aluminum window frames, doors and stairways for an Alberta Industry.

This Board continued to act as Agent for the Board of Trustees for the Alberta Government in the Oil Sands Project at Bitumount. The Project is at present on a maintenance basis only but research is being continued and the Plant is in readiness and could be placed in operation at short notice.

BITUMINOUS OIL SANDS

Lease holding Oil Companies have had crews at work throughout the year. In one case it was necessary to wait for freeze-up to enable a muskeg to be crossed safely with heavy equipment. The estimates made as to the potential value of the Oil Sand deposit have been largely confirmed by the results of the work done to date and it is indicated that as work progresses over a more widespread area, all original guesswork will be replaced by factual information. The total value of this potential wealth may not be known for a number of years but each intervening year's work will bring the estimates closer to reality.

Scrap metals, cotton waste and white rags found ready markets, Scrap steel in outlying parts of the Province was faced with high freight rates to outlets, with some manufacturers storing scrap until increased prices — not presently anticipated — may make sales more attractive.

MISCELLANY

The experience of the Provincial Marketing Board and its knowledge of the location and availability of supplies of every nature are held at the disposal of Alberta industries on request. With offices in the Cities of Edmonton and Calgary and with personnel of the Board frequently in other Cities and Towns, arrangements can readily be made for the discussion of problems of industry. Many persons interviewed have proven to be completely unaware of services available to them from other Departments of Government. When put in touch with such Branches or Departments their worries have been solved or diminished. In many other cases, the Provincial Marketing Board is itself the applicable service maintained by the Government for the benefit of Alberta industry.

CONCLUSION

B.—BUYING POLICIES

Manufacturers starting in business or operating on small capital must frequently purchase their inventory materials in small quantities and, therefore, cannot successfully compete with larger firms engaged in the same line of business, who are able to obtain their requirements by bulk purchases. To some extent this disadvantage is offset by the ability of the Provincial Marketing Board to purchase inventory materials in quantity and while these are primarily at the disposal of any manufacturer, the service is most frequently used by the smaller business. Any savings effected by bulk or quantity purchasing are passed on to the manufacturer.

The Board maintains its own storage warehouses and yards in the Cities of Edmonton and Calgary and stores inventory

materials in yards leased for the purpose in other Cities and Towns of the Province. In the majority of cases, such leased properties are actually a part of the land or buildings owned by the business applying for assistance of this nature, the areas being segregated in a suitable manner to be used exclusively for the purpose of the Board.

In carrying out this buying policy, the Board has during 1953 purchased through its Crown Corporation, Marketing Services Limited, quantities of sheet steel, iron castings, steel, iron, aluminum, cement, stoker parts, castings, acetylene cylinders, steel bars, tubing and wool. These have been held in storage and released as required by the clients, with the result that starting or small industries have been placed upon a more equitable competitive basis.

Even quite large firms occasionally find themselves spread out financially to the place where they cannot take advantage of good opportunities which may arise unexpectedly, and in such cases, it may be to the advantage of the Province for the Board to exercise its powers as contained in the "Alberta Marketing Act", and procure and hold the inventory material. The objective in all cases is the maintenance of gainful employment for Alberta citizens and the building up of industries contributing to increasing supplies of "Made in Alberta" goods.

The Board's method of operation may be of interest. Usually the first step is taken by a businessman calling at one of the Board's offices with a problem. He may have a building of his own, or a rented space, and have his equipment, machinery, etc. installed. He then finds himself short of capital to purchase his raw materials for fabrication or consumption, and this lack brings him to the Provincial Marketing Board. There in an interview, he outlines his need and an enquiry is made into his financial standing, knowledge of his trade, experience in production, management, administration or selling. If he has an Auditor's Statement or Balance Sheet it is examined for any weakness in the overall position. A survey of his potential sales market may be required of him before any Agreement is drawn. If the interview indicates a request which falls within the policies of the Board, the applicant is furnished with simple forms of application and he is fully informed as to the nature of the assistance rendered by the Board. A check is made through established credit sources to ensure that information about the applicant (particularly character information) is as up-to-date as possible. The application forms are returned accompanied by Audited Statements and supporting data as required by the various questions. The application comes before a Meeting of the Board where a decision is reached in favor of or against the application. If favorable, the Board recommends the application to the Honourable the Minister of the Department of Industries & Labour for his approval. When this is received, a formal Agreement is drawn containing all of the terms and conditions under which the assistance will be rendered. An agreed upon sum of money is immediately made available for the purchase of the needed inventory materials.

Under no circumstances does the Board loan money or engage in capital investments. As supplies are received, they may

be stored by the Board's Trading Corporation, Marketing Services Limited, in that Company's warehouses or on its property or may be carried on a part of the applicant's property leased for the duration of the Agreement to Marketing Services Limited. Goods are released to the client as required on cash payment at time of delivery and precautions are taken to ensure that the year's estimated inventory will be withdrawn within that period. All monetary dealings are handled by the Crown Corporation under the direction of the Provincial Marketing Board. All advantages accruing from bulk purchases, short term discounts or discounts for cash payment are taken for the benefit of the client. Towards the end of 1953 a number of sizable savings were secured for clients due to the favorable rate of exchange to Canada against purchases made in the U.S.A. Should the business achieve an unexpected success, it can terminate its Agreement with Marketing Services Limited at any time, without penalty. The Board has no profit-making motive, on its own behalf or for its Trading Company, its sole interest being the establishment of a business in Alberta which will produce Made-in-Alberta merchandise or will increase gainful employment opportunities for Alberta citizens.

C.—SELLING AND PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES

From the time it was first organized the Provincial Marketing Board has been active in encouraging the sale of Alberta products. Through personal contacts and correspondence, the work has been energetically carried on. Inquiries are received continuously from various sections of Canada and from other Countries concerning Alberta products.

Information is sought as to ways and means of developing ideas, obtaining patents, starting businesses, the most suitable location for certain types of manufacture and the extent to which competition may already exist, which might lead to a decision for or against the entering upon a projected course of action.

The Board was requested to investigate the possibility of a new building material being adopted in Alberta to assist in meeting the housing shortage. The patent is a Swedish one and the material has an appearance similar to cement slabs. It can be sawn or nailed to, shaped almost as readily as wood, can be made up as roofing slabs or siding. In Sweden the main component is mined and forms into very attractive blocks. These are noticeable for their light weight — they float when immersed — and their tensile strength. The right to manufacture has been granted to certain Alberta promoters and raw materials have been found, not many miles from Calgary, which have the necessary qualifications to produce an almost identical block. One complete house has been built in each of the Cities of Edmonton and Calgary and these will be closely examined during the winter of 1953-1954. Winter conditions being so similar in Sweden and Canada, it is not anticipated there will be any faults found in the construction of these houses, which in addition to their adjustment to extremes of cold and

heat, are more fire resistant than any other form of building block. There is every possibility this material will be freely available in 1954. In addition to permitting this manufacture to take place in Alberta, the Swedish Corporation will supply the required machinery and will loan the services of skilled technicians until Albertans can be trained to replace them.

A Federal Agency found it necessary to heat a series of buildings before the heating system proper could be connected. They met the situation by the use of a large number of Gas Fired Heaters. As the construction ended, these Heaters became surplus and were removed and placed with a Contractor to be checked over and restored to 100% efficiency. An Alberta dealer was assisted in obtaining a portion of these Heaters for his inventory, the advantage to Alberta citizens being the adoption of a reasonable selling price to the public, which represented an overall saving of over \$30,000.00 to the Alberta consumer. The Heaters were stored by the Crown Corporation and released as required and are now completely distributed throughout the Province. Without this assistance on the part of the Provincial Marketing Board, the whole quantity would have been moved to Eastern Canada for disposal.

GAS FIRED HEATERS

A business already established in the Province was dissatisfied with its source of supply of two types of wire cloth, not manufactured in Canada. Orders were liable to upward revision of prices and shipments delayed. The assistance of the Board was requested. Investigation showed over twenty manufacturers in the U.S.A. West of Chicago, Illinois. This was as far East as enquiries could be made and still obtain a competitive freight rate. Correspondence was opened and the prospective sources of supply were narrowed down to half a dozen firms almost equally favorable. Supplies are now coming forward from Pennsylvania, rather than from California as formerly, at laid down costs and assured deliveries very satisfactory to the Alberta manufacturer. Here again the Crown Corporation makes the bulk purchase in carload lots which would either be beyond the financial ability of the business or temporarily embarrassing.

WIRE CLOTH

A manufacturer of a special type of brick, chimney block and building block was enabled to increase his capital equipment and modernize his Plant when the Provincial Marketing Board agreed to carry an inventory of raw materials for him. This has resulted in a greatly increased output at lower basic cost and provided steady employment for several men.

MANUFACTURE OF BRICKS

There is a growing tendency in the U.S.A. to rely on small compact Plants in carefully selected centres for the supply of Oxygen and Acetylene Gases. Similar conditions are to be found in Alberta. The bulk purchasing power of the Crown Corporation was called on to produce the large number of pressure vessels (Cylinders with Valves)

MANUFACTURE OF OXYGEN & ACETYLENE GASES

needed for the opening deliveries. The Company feared that the erection of a new building and the cost of buying and installing the machinery would exhaust their capital and leave them lacking adequate funds to cover the initial opening period.

The Board agreed to assist them with the provision of this inventory and shipments of Cylinders were arranged for and completed. A preliminary survey of the area had been made to indicate potential sales but in a very short period the most optimistic estimates were being realized and another Alberta industry appears to be firmly established.

One of the many unusual requests to reach the Board came from an English manufacturer of heavy machinery. This firm had shipped to Los Angeles, California, an International P7 skid mounted Pump or cementing unit which was originally intended for Iran. Due to conditions in Persia, brought about by Premier Mossadegh, this equipment became surplus to the reduced Iranian Oil Programme. In fact it would have been quite unsafe to ship it. The request to the Board was for assistance in disposing of the unit in the Alberta oilfield, where some similar units are in service satisfactorily. Many firms and individuals were contacted but without success. Operations are now fairly well stabilized in Alberta oilfields and this type of pump costs nearly \$40,000.00 delivered. Due to the unusual circumstances, the Board was empowered to dispose of the unit at a 50% reduction. The exporter was duly informed that the unit could not immediately be placed in Alberta. It was with much satisfaction the Board learned later that it had been sold to a major Oil Company in Papua.

AID TO AN ENGLISH EXPLORER EXPORTER

To enable the completion of the manufacture of Snow Plow and Grader Blades in Alberta, the Board, through the Crown Corporation, assisted an Alberta subsidiary of an outside Company by storing on leased acreage a large stock of steel, some of which has been partially shaped or prefabricated at the Mill. The machinery necessary for the completion of the manufacture is now in operation. The knowledge that there is on hand a satisfactory inventory of raw materials enables the Company to accept orders for Blades to the limit of their productive ability.

SNOW PLOW AND GRADER BLADES

An Alberta Company, a recent arrival, manufacturing concrete pipe required supplies of wire cloth of special design and unusually heavy gauges. This Company was acquainted with only one source of supply and this was not completely satisfactory. The assistance of the Provincial Marketing Board was requested. Inspection of the operation disclosed that Corrugated Concrete Pipes are made in many sizes from 6" to 84" diameter, orders being made up for water or sewage systems for small communities, villages, towns, farms and for the largest cities. The Wire Cloth is used to reinforce the larger sizes of pipe, two different types of wire being used in each pipe length.

CONCRETE PIPE CONSTRUCTION

The Provincial Marketing Board had little difficulty in learning that wire of the type required is not manufactured in Canada.

Many Mills were found in the U.S.A. engaged in production of this material, some twelve of which were within a reasonable freight rate region. Direct contacts were made by correspondence, the number of possible suppliers being gradually reduced until the most favorable source could be determined. Orders were placed and shipments received as and when required, at confirmed prices. An inventory stock was stored near the Alberta business, enabling the management to Tender on several very large Contracts. The Plant has been enlarged and many Alberta citizens are steadily employed in a growing industry.

It will be of further interest that in one Alberta City, a concrete pipe line 48" diameter was to be installed at a depth of 42 feet. The City was reluctant to attempt an excavation of such depth so called for Tenders for the supply of pipe plus the laying of same. The inventory of materials was available in the stocks held by the Provincial Marketing Board and the management of the pipe manufacturing Company were experienced in deep digging. They obtained the Contract and went to work. In addition to normal cribbing one of the partners designed and had made a steel housing or shield under which men at the bottom of the cut were instructed to work. One end of the 48" pipe extended to this shield. In the event of a cave-in the men could remain under the shield, or even enter that part of the 48" pipe which had already been backfilled. Workmen's Compensation Board Officials who inspected this device have stated that precautions taken on this job exceeded their maximum requirements. The Contract was carried out successfully without injury or loss of life.

During 1953 several businesses were so sufficiently established that they could carry on without further assistance from the Provincial Marketing Board. Amongst these are:

CONCLUSION

- An Aluminum Shaping Company

- A Propane Gas Tank Manufacturing Company

- A Concrete Block Manufacturing Company

All of the above are continuing in operation, giving gainful employment to Alberta citizens.

The preceding paragraphs illustrate to a small extent the practical application of "The Alberta Marketing Act" to Alberta business. No other Province in Canada has Legislation in force extending a comparable service to its citizens. This statement has frequently been made to Members and Officials of the Provincial Marketing Board as a matter for regret by visitors from other parts of Canada. The items outlined in the foregoing pages of this report do not attempt to cover more than a small part of the enquiries which reach the Board throughout the year in connection with the obtaining of Patents, the distribution of specialty items to sales outlets, or other forms of selling and promotional activities.

D.—IMPLEMENT PARTS DISTRIBUTORS

During depression years, Implement Parts Stores were opened in several Cities and operated to provide goods at a reasonable markup. These stores to a considerable extent influenced the general retail prices of the articles stocked. The principal lines were tractor and farm machinery parts.

As economic conditions improved and the basic farm income grew, increased purchasing power made buyers better able to procure replacement parts from the regular line Company Agents. The need for stores such as the Implement Parts Depots lessened to the point where it was considered they no longer filled a real need in the Province and a decision was reached to discontinue this effort. All stores have been closed, with the exception of the Edmonton warehouse and office.

During the years 1948 to 1953 the Board introduced to farmers the M.S.L. Disc Sharpener. This revolutionary Implement Parts equipment offers an entirely new way of sharpening discs right on the farm. In the past, too much time was lost through the farmer having to dismantle his discs and take them to the nearest blacksmith or machine shop for sharpening, but with the M.S.L. Disc Sharpener, he can do the job himself in the field in a very short time. Considerable interest has been shown by farmers in this Sharpener, and enquiries have been received regarding it from farming centres from British Columbia to Ontario.

The Directors of the Crown Corporation decided during 1953 to move the sole remaining Implement Parts Depot in Edmonton to a location closer to the business section of the city, where a more direct contact could be made with the types of persons most likely to benefit from the lines of merchandise carried.

A store was found which met the requirements and arrangements were completed to make the contemplated change early in 1954.

The result of this planning will be referred to in the next Annual Report of this Board.

E.—NEW INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

(Note: With respect to this Section, the Provincial Marketing Board points out that it is so closely connected with industrial development of the Province, it is deemed advisable to include with its report on its own more direct responsibilities a cross-section of the progress made by a number of the Cities and Towns of the Province during 1953. The survey which follows is presented in concise form and has been obtained from apparently reliable sources.)

The year 1953 witnessed a very high level of economic activity. The industrialization of the Province grew by leaps and bounds. Investments in new plants usually ran into millions of dollars and required the opening of industrial areas adjacent to cities and towns, where only months before cattle had grazed and crops been reaped. In some places these conditions required the erection of new apartment blocks, cinemas, shopping centres, schools, churches and hospitals. All these represent capital investment and steady employment. The statistics which follow — which

have been submitted by the majority of Cities and Towns in the Province — indicate clearly the growth of these communities and the improved living standards as represented by outlays for paving of streets, gravelling of secondary roads and lanes, curbing, sidewalks, sewer services and water installations. Cities and Towns are each in alphabetical order for ready reference.

CITIES

CALGARY

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—4,972

Value—\$42,121,154.00

This amount is composed of:

187	Commercial Buildings	\$ 9,009,213.00
18	Institutional Buildings	1,357,572.00
193	Residential Blocks	2,459,920.00
67	Apartments & Hotels	4,083,000.00
2015	Dwellings	20,820,759.00
4	Public Buildings	582,888.00
2488	Miscellaneous Buildings	3,807,802.00
<hr/> 4972		<hr/> \$42,121,154.00

The following improvements were also carried out:

Sidewalk 61.79 miles

Curb and Gutter 68.74 miles

Value—\$1,200,000.00

Sanitary Sewers.....26.1 miles—Value—\$ 750,000.00

Storm Sewers11.91 miles—Value— 1,150,000.00

Paving17.18 miles—Value— 1,020,000.00

SUMMARY OF INDUSTRIAL BUILDING IN 1953

The following businesses either purchased land for new Industries, commenced erection of buildings or completed construction in Calgary during 1953:

ALBERTA PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT.

Warehouse extension.

Approximate cost—\$15,000.00.

ALLIED CHEMICAL SERVICE LIMITED.

Warehouse and Yard.

Approximate cost—\$25,000.00.

HILTON BROTHERS.

Paper Box Factory.

Approximate cost—\$650,000.00.

CANADIAN SURVEY SUPPLIES LIMITED.

Oil Well Vehicle Repairs and Storage.

Approximate cost—\$40,000.00.

CANADIAN INDUSTRIES LIMITED.

Warehouse and Office.

Approximate cost—\$92,000.00.

UNITED FARMERS OF ALBERTA CO-OP LIMITED.

Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$26,000.00.

STURDIE PROPANE LIMITED.

Propane Warehouse and Office.

Approximate cost—\$110,000.00.

STANLEY BROCK.

Office and Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$42,000.00.

GORMAN'S LIMITED.

Machine Sales Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$20,000.00.

COUTTS MACHINERY COMPANY LIMITED.

Warehouse and Office.

Approximate cost—\$40,000.00.

BARNARD TOOL and DYE WORKS.

Tool and Dye Works.

Approximate cost—\$9,000.00.

GLOBELITE BATTERIES LIMITED.

Warehouse and Office.

Approximate cost—\$24,300.00.

HUDSON PAPER COMPANY.

Paper Warehouse and Office.

Approximate cost—\$77,000.00.

PALACE BAKERY.

Bakery.

Approximate cost—\$320,000.00.

DOWELL INCORPORATED.

Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$58,000.00.

WATSON CONSTRUCTION.

Office Building and Contractor's Yard.

Approximate cost—\$5,000.00.

WILLARD STORAGE BATTERY COMPANY.

Factory.

Approximate cost—\$375,000.00.

MAPLE LEAF TRUCKING.

Truck Depot.

Approximate cost—\$35,000.00.

WESTERN ASPHALT DISTRIBUTORS (Alta.).

Truck Garage and Office.

Approximate cost—\$25,000.00.

PROCTOR CONCRETE PRODUCTS.

Concrete Block Manufacturing.

Approximate cost—\$23,000.00.

J. B. RODGER.

Sheet Metal Shop.

Approximate cost—\$30,000.00.

CANADA GUNITE COMPANY.

Office and Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$3,500.00.

MERCHANDISING AIDS MANUFACTURING.

Pickling and Metal Plating.

Approximate cost—\$12,000.00.

MR. SHIRLEY SALT.

Warehouse and Storage.

Approximate cost—\$24,000.00.

PLAS-TI-COAT.

Plant.

Approximate cost—\$2,800.00.

SAVAGE PRODUCTS COMPANY.

Bleach Plant.

Approximate cost—\$8,960.00.

RETTSCHIAG & SONS.

Ornamental Iron Shop.

Approximate cost—\$4,000.00.

STAR DRILLING COMPANY.

Warehouse and Office.

Approximate cost—\$6,500.00.

L. R. LEWIS.

Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$8,000.00.

NEPTUNE METERS.

Office and Meter Testing Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$34,000.00.

SERVI SOFT.

Water Softening Service Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$7,000.00.

MACLIN MOTORS.

Truck Depot.

Approximate cost—\$32,500.00.

RICE MACHINERY SERVICE LIMITED.

Oil Rig Service Shop.

Approximate cost—\$18,000.00.

STANDEN'S LIMITED.

Extension to Office and Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$25,000.00.

STEEL-CRAFTS ALBERTA LIMITED.

Extension.

Approximate cost—\$5,500.00.

BARBER MACHINERY LIMITED.

Addition.

Approximate cost—\$30,000.00.

KIRK'S TIRE SERVICE.

Office and Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$28,000.00.

O. J. HURST.

Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$15,000.00.

CHARLES ADDERSON.

Cabinet Shop and Storage.

Approximate cost—\$16,300.00.

FOWLIE MOTORS.

Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$25,000.00.

JAMES H. BOTT.

Contractor's Repair Shop and Yard.

Approximate Cost—\$4,500.00.

SUNNYSIDE AUTO BODY WORKS.

Auto Body Works.

Approximate cost—\$10,500.00.

CALGARY SASH & DOOR FACTORY.

Factory.

Approximate cost—\$16,000.00.

GIENOW CONTRUCTION COMPANY.

Shop and Storage Yard.

Approximate cost—\$5,000.00.

SOCONY-VACUUM.

Core Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$12,800.00.

UNITED TRAILER.

Extension—Trailer Factory.

Approximate cost—\$5,000.00.

SHELL OIL COMPANY.

Pipe Yard and Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$61,000.00.

NORTHERN ASBESTOS & BUILDING SUPPLIES LIMITED.

Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$6,000.00.

TEES & PERSSE LIMITED.

Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$205,000.00.

UNITED SHEET METAL.

Shop and Office.

Approximate cost—\$20,000.00.

CALGARY PACKERS.

Freezer Building.

Approximate cost—\$20,000.00.

GENERAL STEEL WARES.

Warehouse and Office.

Approximate cost—\$189,000.00.

CLARKE'S AUTO BODY PARTS.

Body Shop.

Approximate cost—\$12,000.00.

H. E. DIAL.

Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$11,000.00.

JEFFERIES & SONS LIMITED.

Light Aggregate Block Plant.

Approximate cost—\$40,000.00.

ASSOCIATED GROCERIES LIMITED.

Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$15,000.00.

COSTELLO EQUIPMENT.

Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$60,000.00.

ALEX SHEPHERD COMPANY LIMITED.

Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$15,000.00.

RELIANCE STORAGE & CARTAGE.

Extension.

Approximate cost—\$16,000.00.

NEON PRODUCTS.

Office and Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$271,000.00.

CANADIAN BEDDING COMPANY.

Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$35,000.00.

BRUCE ROBINSON ELECTRIC.

Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$209,000.00.

PEAK EMPLOYMENT FIGURES**CALGARY METROPOLITAN FIRMS WITH ONE OR MORE
EMPLOYEES IN 1953**

	Firms	Male	Female	Total
Oil & Gas Exploration & Production	344	3229	1341	4570
Manufacturing	410	9830	1718	11548
Construction	833	6759	184	6943
Transportation, Storage & Communication	270	5983	1076	7059
Utilities	7	1284	175	1459
Wholesale Trade	476	4524	1407	5931
Retail Trade	513	3007	3298	6305
Garages & Service Stations	181	1794	146	1940
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate ...	374	1498	1619	3117
Public Service	282	1172	2772	3944
Government Service	12	3728	873	4601
Business Service	267	925	660	1585
Personal Service	537	1656	3013	4669
	4506	45389	18282	63671

Oil Companies listed above employ 13214 in their Western
Canada operations.

Construction firms employ additional 2000 on out of town pro-
jects:

NEW INDUSTRIES — 1953

Hilton Brothers	\$ 650,000.00
Sturdie Propane Limited	110,000.00
Gorman's Limited	20,000.00
Coutts Machinery Limited	40,000.00
Hudson Paper Company	77,000.00
Silvester Supply	375,000.00
Canada Gunitite Company	3,500.00
Star Drilling Company	6,500.00
L. R. Lewis	8,000.00
Servi Soft	7,000.00
Rice Machinery Service Limited	18,000.00
Kirk's Tire Service	28,000.00
Charles Adderson	16,300.00
Fowlie Motors	25,000.00
James H. Bott	4,500.00
Calgary Sash & Door Factory	16,000.00
Socony-Vacuum	12,800.00
Canadian Bedding Company	35,000.00

\$1,452,600.00

TOTAL INDUSTRIAL ACRES SOLD FOR 1953

101.65 acres

BANK CLEARINGS

	1953	1952	Increase
Calgary	\$1,889,147,767	\$1,722,203,570	\$166,944,197

DRUMHELLER

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—65

Value—\$133,045.00

This amount is composed of:

12	Commercial Buildings	\$ 21,225.00
6	Institutional Buildings	25,045.00
47	Dwellings	86,775.00

\$133,045.00

The following improvements were also carried out:

Asphalt roads, 1 block	\$10,800.00
Sidewalk Resurfacing Concrete Mastic	6,000.00
Sidewalk New Asphalt	2,000.00

EDMONTON

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—7085

Value—\$55,023,816.00

This amount is composed of:

221	Commercial	New	\$10,309,413.00
362	Commercial	Alterations and	
		Repairs	2,453,437.00
4	Commercial	Adjusting	42,176.00
23	Institutional	New	4,251,201.00
48	Institutional	Alterations and	
		Repairs	1,873,044.00
2	Institutional	Adjusting	23,342.00
104	Residential	Apartments—New	5,979,000.00
2820	Residential	Dwellings—\$1,000.00	
		and Up	26,463,000.00
1359	Residential	Alterations and	
		Repairs	1,138,447.00
45	Residential	Adjusting	126,300.00
4	Public Bldgs.	New	213,500.00
4	Public Bldgs.	Alterations and	
		Repairs	112,500.00
1925	Miscellaneous	New	1,135,102.00
164	Miscellaneous	Alterations and	
		Repairs	903,354.00

7085

\$55,023,816.00

INDUSTRIAL PROGRESS IN 1953

The following businesses either purchased land for new Industries, commenced erection of buildings or completed construction in Edmonton in 1953:

FIRESTONE TIRE COMPANY.

Addition to present Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$90,000.00.

DUNLOP TIRE COMPANY.

Warehouse completed.

Approximate cost—\$100,000.00.

EDMONTON PRODUCE COMPANY.

Warehouse building, completed in 1952, sold to British American Paint Company.

Approximate cost—\$140,000.00.

JOHN DEERE PLOW COMPANY.

Warehouse over 50% complete.

Approximate cost—\$550,000.00.

METALS LIMITED.

Warehouse over 50% complete.

Approximate cost—\$600,000.00.

WESTERN GROCERS LIMITED.

Warehouse about 25% complete.

Approximate cost—\$625,000.00.

McLENNAN, McFEELEY & PRIOR.

Steel Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$100,000.00.

DAINTY CAKE COMPANY.

Cake and Biscuit Factory.

Approximate cost—\$175,000.00.

PRECISION MACHINE AND FOUNDRY COMPANY.

Machine Shop and Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$150,000.00.

BATE AND ALBERTA DRUG COMPANY.

Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$100,000.00.

GUTTA PERCHA RUBBER COMPANY.

Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$125,000.00.

OXFORD MACHINE COMPANY.

Machine Shop.

Approximate cost—\$35,000.00.

TAYLOR AND PEARSON LIMITED.

Automotive Machine Shop.

Approximate cost—\$100,000.00.

REGENT DRILLING COMPANY.

Approximate cost—\$150,000.00.

FRUEHAUF TRAILER COMPANY.

Repair Shop and Assembly Plant.

Approximate cost—\$200,000.00.

PRECAST CEMENT COMPANY.

Manufactured beams, floors, walls, etc.

Approximate cost—\$200,000.00.

IMPERIAL OIL COMPANY.

Are now completing third warehouse for storing oil cores,
costing approximately \$35,000.00 each.

Approximate total cost—\$105,000.00.

BLUE RIBBON COMPANY.

Coffee Grinding and Roasting Warehouse and Packing
Plant.

Approximate cost—\$90,000.00.

GENERAL MOTORS LIMITED.

Large Parts Warehouse under construction.

Approximate cost—\$700,000.00.

PROVINCIAL ENGINEERING COMPANY.

Approximate cost—\$50,000.00.

FRANKLIN SUPPLY COMPANY.

Oil Well Supply Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$50,000.00.

OIL REPAIR AND MACHINE MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

Approximate cost—\$40,000.00.

WOODLAND DAIRY.

Milk Processing Plant and Garage.

Approximate cost—\$275,000.00.

CANADIAN METER COMPANY.

Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$38,000.00.

W. R. ZEIDLER LIMITED.

Sash and Door Factory.

Approximate cost—\$180,000.00.

OIL EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

Manufactured Oil Equipment.

Approximate cost—\$125,000.00.

ATLAS STEEL COMPANY.

Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$150,000.00.

LUCEY EXPORT COMPANY.

Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$50,000.00.

MACHINERY AND CONSTRUCTION COMPANY.

Approximate cost—\$36,000.00.

ALBERTA CONSOLIDATED GAS UTILITIES.

Approximate cost—\$28,000.00.

WESTERN VINEGAR COMPANY.

Vinegar Manufacturing Plant.

Approximate cost—\$140,000.00.

VICTORIA MEAT SUPPLY COMPANY.

Packing Plant.

Approximate cost—\$80,000.00.

ALEX LATTA LIMITED.

Warehouse for welding supplies, etc.

Approximate cost—\$35,000.00.

MARTIN PAPER PRODUCTS LIMITED.

Manufacturing corrugated paper boxes, etc.

Approximate cost—\$260,000.00.

DAIRY SUPPLY LIMITED.

Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$100,000.00.

STERLING FURNITURE LIMITED.

Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$60,000.00.

BORGER BROTHERS AND COMPANY LIMITED, GENERAL CONTRACTORS.

Office, Machine Shop, Repair Shop and Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$60,000.00.

SOO FREIGHT LINES.

Warehouse and Yard.

Approximate cost—\$50,000.00.

CONGDON VAN AND STORAGE COMPANY.

Warehouse and Yard.

Approximate cost—\$40,000.00.

CANADIAN FREIGHTWAYS LIMITED.

Warehouse and Yard.

Approximate cost—\$80,000.00.

LITEROCK LIMITED.

Manufacturing light weight cement aggregate.

Approximate cost—\$260,000.00.

SUPERIOR CONCRETE PIPE COMPANY.

Manufacturing Cement Pipe.

Approximate cost—\$40,000.00.

ROBERTSON-IRWIN COMPANY.

First unit corrugated steel pipe, steel buildings, etc.

Approximate cost—\$50,000.00.

HALLIBURTON OIL WELL CEMENT COMPANY.

Oil Servicing.

Approximate cost—\$250,000.00.

CASSIDY'S LIMITED.

Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$420,000.00.

WESTERN CABINET MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

Factory Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$175,000.00.

NORTHERN ENGINEERING AND EQUIPMENT COMPANY.

Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$35,000.00.

MacCOSHAM'S LIMITED.

Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$400,000.00.

ROADWAY INDUSTRIES LIMITED.

Manufacturing Trailers.

Approximate cost—\$45,000.00.

ALEXANDRA BRICK AND TILE COMPANY.

Brick and Tile Plant.

Approximate cost—\$55,000.00.

JOHN WOOD COMPANY.

Manufacturing steel drums, steel tanks and other fabricated steel products.

Approximate cost—\$200,000.00.

MID-CONTINENT SUPPLY COMPANY.

Oil Well Supplies Warehouse.

Approximate cost—\$95,000.00.

IMPERIAL OIL COMPANY.

Lubricating Oil Plant.

Approximate cost—\$10,000,000.00.

McCOLL FRONTENAC OIL COMPANY.

Addition to Refinery.

Approximate cost—\$4,000,000.00.

DOMINION OXYGEN COMPANY.

Manufacturing Plant.

Approximate cost—\$1,000,000.00.

TARTAN CHEMICALS LIMITED.

Manufacturing Antifreeze, Brake Fluids, etc.

Approximate cost—\$50,000.00.

BUILDING PRODUCTS LIMITED.

Manufacturing felt for roofing products and paper for converting plants.

In excess of—\$1,000,000.00.

Total—\$24,337,000.00

BANK CLEARINGS

	1953	1952	Increase
Edmonton	\$1,807,431,056	\$1,620,472,361	\$186,958,695

LETHBRIDGE

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—709

Value—\$7,429,440.59

This amount is composed of:

304	Fully Modern Residences	\$2,914,150.00
5	Fully Modern Duplexes	74,000.00
137	Garages, new and additions	65,010.00
41	Warehouses, Shops and Offices	494,115.00
67	Commercial Alterations & Additions	796,876.00
126	Residential Alterations & Additions	89,831.00
6	Apartment Houses	282,000.00
4	Churches, New, Alterations & Additions	117,000.00
2	Service Stations & Garages	28,000.00
1	Public Building. (Schools, Court House & Post Office	60,000.00
16	Miscellaneous	2,508,458.00
709		<hr/> \$7,429,440.59

BANK CLEARINGS

	1953	1952	Increase
Lethbridge	\$201,402,296	\$184,207,470	\$17,194,826

MEDICINE HAT

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—474

Value—\$3,960,220.00

This amount is composed of:

7	Commercial Buildings	\$ 68,000.00
5	Institutional Buildings	962,000.00
6	Apartments and Hotels	77,500.00
236	Dwellings	2,323,620.00
2	Public Buildings	167,000.00
8	Miscellaneous	3,115.00
52	Alterations	77,600.00
17	Other	215,820.00
141	Private Garages	65,565.00

474 \$3,960,220.00

NOTE: (The institutional figures above include)

1	School	\$856,000.00
3	Churches	96,000.00

BANK CLEARINGS

	1953	1952	Increase
Medicine Hat	\$77,417,975	\$67,221,951	\$10,196,024

RED DEER

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—389

Value—\$3,885,250.00

This amount is composed of:

36	Commercial Buildings	\$1,425,500.00
6	Institutional Buildings	706,500.00
3	Apartments and Hotels	182,000.00
185	Dwellings	1,427,500.00
159	Miscellaneous	143,750.00

389 \$3,885,250.00

The following improvements were carried out:

14,472	Lineal Feet Sidewalks	\$ 27,450.09
18,067	Lineal Feet Sewer	57,003.00
15,776	Lineal Feet Watermains	72,636.61

\$ 157,089.75
WETASKIWIN

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—139

Value—\$1,279,840.00

This amount is composed of:

11	Commercial Buildings	\$ 300,300.00
3	Institutional Buildings	43,500.00
1	Apartment and Hotel	10,000.00
90	Dwellings	513,900.00
1	Public Building	400,000.00
33	Miscellaneous	12,140.00

139

\$1,279,840.00

The following improvements were carried out:

Sewers (Sanitary)	\$ 18,000.00
Sidewalks	14,000.00
Gravelling	5,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 37,000.00

TOWNS

ATHABASCA

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—37
Value—\$191,200.00

This amount is composed of:

9 Commercial Builings	\$ 35,600.00
8 Institutional Buildings	101,000.00
12 Residential Garages	30,950.00
7 Dwellings	23,200.00
1 Miscellaneous	450.00
<hr/>	<hr/>
37	\$191,200.00

BARRHEAD

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—23
Value—\$82,950.00

This amount is composed of:

6 Commercial Buildings	\$ 32,000.00
16 Dwellings	44,950.00
1 Miscellaneous	6,000.00
<hr/>	<hr/>
23	\$ 82,950.00

BASSANO

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—2
Value—\$14,500.00

This amount is composed of:

2 Dwellings	\$ 14,500.00
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The following improvements were carried out:

Water filtration Plant	\$ 42,000.00
New Streets	1,600.00
New Truck Part	900.00
<hr/>	<hr/>

\$ 44,500.00

BEVERLY

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—277
Value—\$1,158,036.00

This amount is composed of:

3 Commercial Buildings	\$ 15,000.00
2 Institutional Buildings	100,000.00
190 Dwellings	1,005,160.00
82 Miscellaneous	37,876.00
<hr/>	<hr/>

277 \$1,158,036.00

NOTE: (The Institutional figures above include:)

1	School	\$65,000.00
1	Church	35,000.00

In addition to the above, a water and sewer Installation Project valued at \$532,000.00 was started in November, 1953, to be completed in 1954.

BLAIRMORE

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—15
Value—\$10,975.00

This amount is composed of:

9	Residential Garages	\$ 2,100.00
3	Dwellings	8,500.00
3	Miscellaneous	375.00
15		<hr/> \$ 10,975.00

BONNYVILLE

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—68
Value—\$523,000.00

This amount is composed of:

9	Commercial Buildings	\$105,500.00
2	Institutional Buildings	185,000.00
57	Dwellings	232,500.00
68		<hr/> \$523,000.00

The following improvements were carried out:

Sidewalks	\$ 21,000.00
Gravelling Streets	5,000.00
Water and Sewer extension	41,000.00
Gas distribution extension	10,000.00
	<hr/> \$ 77,000.00

BOW ISLAND

Statement of Improvements and Alterations, etc:

Total—72
Value—\$352,750.00

This amount is composed of:

13	Commercial Buildings	\$ 61,500.00
39	Dwellings	276,000.00
20	Miscellaneous	15,250.00
72		<hr/> \$352,750.00

The following improvements were carried out:

New Domestic Sewer System installed	\$107,000.00
Concrete Sidewalks constructed	3,750.00
	<hr/> \$110,750.00

BOWNESS

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—410

Value—\$1,806,900.00

This amount is composed of:

332 Dwellings\$1,772,735.00

78 Miscellaneous 34,165.00

410\$1,806,900.00

The following improvements were also carried out:

1 New School\$290,000.00

1 Church of Nazarene 1,930.00

\$291,930.00**BROOKS**

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—48

Value—\$231,375.00

This amount is composed of:

5 Commercial Buildings\$ 12,050.00

7 Residential Garages 2,800.00

30 Dwellings 90,375.00

2 Public Buildings 122,800.00

4 Miscellaneous 3,350.00

48\$231,375.00**CAMROSE**

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—223

Value—\$2,005,053.00

This amount is composed of:

19 Commercial Buildings\$ 186,006.00

1 Institutional Building 264,237.00

29 Residential Garages 13,000.00

1 Apartment & Hotel 13,000.00

164 Dwellings 1,121,950.00

5 Public Buildings 404,000.00

4 Miscellaneous 2,860.00

223\$2,005,053.00**CARDSTON**

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—16

Value—\$40,400.00

This amount is composed of:

2 Commercial Buildings\$ 7,000.00

4 Dwellings 19,500.00

1 Public School 8,000.00

9 Miscellaneous 5,900.00

16\$ 40,400.00

The following improvements were carried out:

Sewer Installation	\$ 20,000.00
Water Installation	25,770.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 45,770.00

CASTOR

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—23
Value—\$196,250.00

This amount is composed of:

4 Commercial Buildings	\$ 66,000.00
1 Apartment and Hotel	46,000.00
16 Dwellings	83,550.00
2 Miscellaneous	700.00
	<hr/>
23	\$196,250.00

In addition to the above, a Sewer and Water System were installed during 1953 at a total cost of approximately \$230,000.00

CLARESHOLM

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—45
Value—\$389,850.00

This amount is composed of:

5 Commercial Buildings	\$ 55,150.00
36 Dwellings	197,700.00
4 Miscellaneous	137,000.00
(Churches—2 new and 2 additions)	

45	<hr/>	\$389,850.00
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The following improvements were carried out:

Water mains extended 1,100 feet and 33 services added at cost of	\$ 4,332.00
2,700 feet of 8" sewers extended with 33 added services at cost of	10,680.00
12,636 square feet of cement sidewalks laid at cost of	5,330.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 20,342.00

COALDALE

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—42
Value—\$269,790.00

This amount is composed of:

5 Commercial Buildings	\$ 26,700.00
1 Institutional Building (School)	160,000.00
1 Apartment	4,500.00
18 Dwellings	64,000.00
1 Public Buildings	4,500.00
16 Miscellaneous	10,090.00
	<hr/>
42	\$269,790.00

COLEMAN

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—17
Value—\$31,460.00

This amount is composed of:

3	Commercial Buildings	\$ 15,400.00
9	Residential Garages	2,260.00
3	Dwellings	2,200.00
1	Public Building	11,000.00
1	Miscellaneous	600.00
<hr/>		
17		\$ 31,460.00

CORONATION

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—1
Value—\$9,000.00

This amount is composed of:

1	Dwelling	\$ 9,000.00
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DAYSLAND

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—25
Value—\$74,600.00

This amount is composed of:

1	Commercial Building	\$ 1,600.00
1	Institutional Building	48,000.00
6	Residential Garages	1,550.00
1	Apartment and Hotel	3,000.00
6	Dwellings	15,700.00
10	Miscellaneous	4,750.00
<hr/>		
25		\$ 74,600.00

DEVON

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—21
Value—\$65,960.00

This amount is composed of:

1	Commercial Building	\$ 22,000.00
4	Dwellings	26,000.00
16	Miscellaneous	17,960.00
<hr/>		
21		\$ 65,960.00

The following improvements were carried out:

Hard surfacing (Cold asphalt mix)	\$ 7,625.73
Cement curbing	11,786.25
Sewer and water extensions	5,019.40
	<hr/>
	\$ 24,431.38

DIDSBURY

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—20

Value—\$358,200.00

This amount is composed of:

7	Commercial Buildings	\$ 39,500.00
1	Institutional Building	265,000.00
12	Dwellings	53,700.00
<hr/>		
20		\$358,200.00

In addition to the above, cement sidewalks were constructed to the value of \$7,000.00

EDSON

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—93

Value—\$404,850.00

This amount is composed of:

21	Commercial Buildings	\$178,450.00
2	Institutional Buildings	9,000.00
1	Apartment and Hotels (Motel)	30,000.00
69	Dwellings	187,400.00
<hr/>		
93		\$404,850.00
Less Permits issued but no construction followed		\$ 75,200.00
<hr/>		
		\$329,650.00

The following improvements were carried out:

1953 Sewer and water extension	\$ 18,000.00
(Progressive) construction spent in 1953 on United and Roman Catholic Churches	20,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 38,000.00

FAIRVIEW

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—37

Value—\$107,000.00

This amount is composed of:

7	Commercial Buildings	\$ 21,200.00
30	Dwellings	85,800.00
<hr/>		
37		\$107,000.00

The following improvements were carried out:

8 blocks sewer mains and 47 sewer service Installations	\$ 17,500.00
5 blocks water mains and 35 water service installations	18,000.00
3 blocks cement sidewalks	3,600.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 39,100.00

FOREST LAWN

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—239

Value—\$544,860.00

This amount is composed of:

5	Commercial Buildings	\$ 31,000.000
124	Dwellings	479,160.00
109	Sheds and Garages	32,700.00
1	Warehouse	2,000.00
239		<u>\$544,860.00</u>

The following improvements were carried out:

School finished in 1953 valued at \$116,000.00. Approximately 3 miles of new road built (secondary). Re-gravelling and maintenance at \$16,000.00 including approximately \$2,000.00 for installation of culverts. Fire Department organized and Civil Defence also under way.

FORT MACLEOD

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—25

Value—\$237,775.00

This amount is composed of:

3	Commercial Buildings	\$ 56,500.00
2	Apartments and Hotels (Motels)	27,600.00
18	Dwellings	133,675.00
1	Public Building	15,000.00
1	Miscellaneous	5,000.00
25		<u>\$237,775.00</u>

FORT SASKATCHEWAN

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—124

Value—\$1,023,057.00

This amount is composed of:

6	Commercial Buildings	\$ 27,850.00
2	Institutional Buildings	161,000.00
1	Residential Block	20,000.00
90	New Dwellings	805,600.00
5	Altered Dwellings	3,495.00
20	Miscellaneous	5,112.00
124		<u>\$1,023,057.00</u>

The following improvements were carried out:

1¾ miles sewers completed in 1953.

School completed (Included in institutions).

GLEICHEN

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—7
Value—\$27,700.00

This amount is composed of:

2	Commercial Buildings	\$ 5,000.00
1	Residential Garage	500.00
3	Dwellings	14,200.00
1	Public Building	8,000.00
<hr/>		
7		\$ 27,700.00

GRANDE PRAIRIE

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—152
Value—\$509,287.00

This amount is composed of:

30	Commercial Buildings	\$ 46,230.00
4	Institutional Buildings	155,000.00
4	Apartments and Hotels	65,450.00
113	Dwellings	239,607.00
1	Industrial Building	3,000.00
<hr/>		
152		\$509,287.00

The following improvements were carried out:

6,037 feet of 4 feet sidewalks.	
315 feet of 8 feet sidewalks.	
566 feet of curb and gutter	\$ 18,761.00
Storm Sewers	9,744.00
Sanitary Sewers and Water Mains	35,978.00
1 New Separate School	30,000.00
Addition to Public School	118,000.00
1 New Church	5,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$217,483.00

GRANUM

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—Unstated (Permits
not issued)
Value—\$6,000.00

This amount is composed of:

Dwellings	\$ 6,000.00
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In addition to the above, \$4,000.00 was spent on roads and streets.

GRIMSHAW

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—Unstated
Value—\$68,650.00

This amount is composed of:

Commercial Buildings	\$ 30,600.00
Institutional Buildings	1,000.00
Dwellings and Alterations	37,050.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 68,650.00

In addition to above, the following improvements were made:

Waterworks extension was completed\$ 44,000.00

Survey of the Town was made and plans completed for construction of a sewer system.

During 1953 the following businesses were added to the Town:

A Doctor.

Propane Gas Wholesale.

A Shoe Repair Shop.

An Auto Body Shop.

A Milk Pasteurizing Plant.

A Propane Gas and Appliance Store.

HANNA

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—40

Value—\$298,400.00

This amount is composed of:

8	Commercial Buildings	\$ 32,500.00
1	Apartment and Hotel	26,000.00
19	Dwellings	84,300.00
1	Public Building (School)	150,000.00
11	Miscellaneous	5,600.00
—		<hr/>
40		\$298,400.00

In addition to the above, cement sidewalks were constructed to the value of \$3,000.00.

HARDISTY

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—2

Value—\$7,000.00

This amount is composed of:

1	Commercial Building and	
1	Dwelling	\$7,000.00

HIGH PRAIRIE

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—40

Value—\$318,960.00

7	Commercial Buildings	\$ 48,715.00
2	Institutional Buildings	66,000.00
10	Residential Garages	2,175.00
19	Dwellings	76,320.00
1	Public Building	125,000.00
1	Miscellaneous	750.00
—		<hr/>
40		\$318,960.00

HIGH RIVER

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—30

Value—\$483,000.00

This amount is composed of:

2	Commercial Buildings	\$ 8,800.00
1	Institutional Building (School)	295,000.00
17	Dwellings	169,800.00
6	Alterations to Dwellings	7,600.00
4	Miscellaneous	1,800.00

30 \$483,000.00

The following improvements were carried out:

Sidewalks	\$ 15,816.00
Sewers	1,593.00

\$ 17,409.00
INNISFAIL

Total—44

Value—\$131,990.00

This amount is composed of:

7	Commercial Buildings	\$ 20,150.00
9	Residential Garages	3,450.00
24	Dwellings	107,490.00
4	Miscellaneous	900.00

44 \$131,990.00
IRVINE

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—6

Value—\$9,005.00

This amount is composed of:

6	Dwellings	\$ 9,005.00
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The following improvements were carried out:

Three blocks of sidewalks	\$ 1,299.05
Grading and gravelling of streets	2,087.53

\$ 3,386.58
JASPER PLACE

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—563

Value—\$2,063,945.00

10	Commercial Buildings	} \$2,063.945.00
5	Institutional Buildings	
437	Dwellings	
111	Miscellaneous	

563 \$2,063,945.00

The following improvements were carried out:

Sewer and Water Installations	\$540,000.00
Schools	352,400.00

LAC LA BICHE

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—24
Value—\$243,820.00

This amount is composed of:

3	Commercial Buildings	\$ 3,600.00
2	Apartments and Hotels	215,000.00
5	Dwellings	21,000.00
14	Miscellaneous (Repairs)	4,220.00
24		<hr/> \$243,820.00

In addition to the above, sidewalks were constructed at a cost of \$700.00.

LACOMBE

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—82
Value \$335,425.00

This amount is composed of:

12	Commercial Buildings	36,450.00
1	Institutional (Addition to Church)	4,000.00
1	Apartment	65,000.00
1	Motel	25,000.00
32	Dwellings	169,345.00
13	Private Garages	3,240.00
22	Miscellaneous (Alterations & Repairs)	32,390.00
82		<hr/> \$335,425.00

In addition to the above, new sidewalks were constructed at a cost of \$6,000.00.

LEDUC

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—43
Value—\$107,225.00

This amount is composed of:

5	Commercial Buildings	\$ 17,900.00
12	Dwellings	66,700.00
26	Miscellaneous	22,625.00
43		<hr/> \$107,225.00

In addition to the above, cement sidewalks were constructed at a cost of \$18,000.00.

LLOYDMINSTER

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—216
Value—\$851,303.00

This amount is composed of:

27	Commercial Buildings	\$169,200.00
3	Institutional Buildings	12,200.00
1	Apartment and Hotel	12,000.00
183	Dwellings	644,103.00
1	Public Building	12,000.00
1	Miscellaneous (Business School)	1,800.00
216		<hr/> \$851,303.00

The following improvements were carried out:

Water and Sewer Installations	\$140,000.00
Sidewalks, Curbs and Gutters	32,000.00

McLENNAN

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—27
Value—\$19,545.00

This amount is composed of:

5 Commercial Buildings	\$ 6,200.00
10 Dwellings	10,850.00
12 Miscellaneous	2,495.00
—	—
27	\$ 19,545.00

The following improvements were carried out:

425 lineal feet of 5 feet concrete sidewalks at a cost of	\$ 1,634.00
400 lineal feet 4 feet cinder walk bordered by creosoted 2 x 6. (This walk to re- ceive asphalt topping in 1954)	114.00
Construction started on new hospital	500,000.00
—	—
	\$501,748.00

McMURRAY

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—Nil
Value—Nil

MAGRATH

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—4
Value—\$87,000.00

This amount is composed of:

This amount is composed of:

1 Commercial Building	\$ 7,000.00
2 Residential Blocks	15,000.00
1 Public Building	65,000.00
—	—
4	\$ 87,000.00

The following improvements were carried out:

1½ Blocks Sidewalk	\$ 1,000.00
12 Blocks of Street Oiled	500.00
2 Blocks of Sewer	1,000.00
—	—
	\$ 2,500.00

MORINVILLE

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—13
Value—\$44,350.00

3 Dwellings	\$ 44,350.00
8 Miscellaneous	
2 Commercial Buildings	
—	—
13	\$ 44,350.00

The following improvements were carried out:

Approximately 930 feet of wooden sidewalks were constructed at a cost of \$1,500.00.

Approximately 290 feet of cement sidewalks were constructed at a cost of \$500.00.

A survey was made by the Associated Engineering Services Limited to determine the cost of water and extension of sewers in the town. An application to borrow the sum of \$89,000.00 for the purpose of extending the sewers has been approved by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners and voting on the By-Law will take place in the near future.

MUNDARE

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—24
Value \$13,685.00

This amount is composed of:

3	Commercial Buildings	\$ 3,100.00
21	Dwellings	10,585.00

The following improvements were carried out:

Repairs to Sidewalks	\$ 1,500.00
New Concrete Sidewalks	3,500.00
Sewers under Construction	79,800.00
Waterworks under Construction	85,700.00

\$170,500.00

NANTON

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—5
Value—\$30,000.00

This amount is composed of:

5	Dwellings (Approx.)	\$ 30,000.00
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The following improvements were carried out:

3 blocks of sidewalks constructed	\$ 2,600.00
One new water well drilled and tapped in, complete with pump at cost of	4,000.00

\$ 36,600.00

OKOTOKS

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—26
Value—\$29,925.00

This amount is composed of:

7	Commercial Buildings	\$ 11,400.00
8	Dwellings (new)	11,720.00
8	Additions to Dwellings	5,275.00
3	Private Garages	1,530.00

26 \$ 29,925.00

In addition to the above, the town took over from the construction company, a water system costing \$92,000.00 and a sewer system costing \$97,000.00.

OLDS

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—39

Value—\$138,530.00

This amount is composed of:

9	Commercial Buildings	\$ 24,060.00
1	Residential Block	14,000.00
29	Dwellings	100,470.00
<hr/>		
39		\$138,530.00

In addition to the above, new sidewalks were constructed at a cost of \$3,100.00.

PEACE RIVER

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—63

Value—\$261,400.00

This amount is composed of:

19	Commercial Buildings	\$ 86,200.00
2	Institutional Buildings	74,000.00
29	Dwellings	94,650.00
13	Miscellaneous	6,550.00
<hr/>		
63		\$261,400.00

The following improvements were carried out:

2310	lineal feet of sidewalk	\$ 3,500.00
5485	lineal feet of sewer and	
2550	lineal feet of water	59,000.00
<hr/>		
		\$ 62,500.00

PINCHER CREEK

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—33

Value—\$216,075.00

This amount is composed of:

5	Commercial Buildings	\$ 6,200.00
1	Institutional Building	20,000.00
1	Residential Garage	1,000.00
20	Dwellings	104,675.00
2	Public Buildings	82,000.00
4	Miscellaneous	2,200.00
<hr/>		
33		\$216,075.00

PONOKA

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—146

Value—\$670,660.00

This amount is composed of:

11	Commercial Buildings	\$106,650.00
2	Institutional Buildings	185,000.00
1	Residential Block	8,900.00
43	Dwellings	304,500.00
89	Miscellaneous (Repairs, etc.)	65,610.00
<hr/>		
146		\$670,660.00

The following improvements were carried out:

4 miles of concrete sidewalks, 4 fee wide	\$ 34,000.00
Water and sewer extensions	23,000.00
Storm sewers	1,500.00
Artificial Ice Plant installed at Arena.	
These figures not included in Building	
Permits given above	48,500.00
	<hr/>
	\$107,000.00

PROVOST

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—17
Value—\$54,100.00

This amount is composed of:

16 Dwellings	\$ 53,700.00
1 Garage	400.00
	<hr/>
17	\$ 54,100.00

In addition to the above, 2 blocks of sidewalks were constructed at a cost of \$3,000.00.

RAYMOND

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—23
Value—\$219,000.00

This amount is composed of:

1 Institutional Building	\$151,000.00
6 Dwellings	48,000.00
1 Public Building	17,000.00
15 Miscellaneous	3,000.00
	<hr/>
23	\$219,000.00

In addition to the above, 75% of the town is now served with sewer and 100% with water.

REDCLIFF

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—65
Value—\$242,225.00

This amount is composed of:

3 Commercial Buildings	\$ 30,000.00
62 Dwellings	212,225.00
	<hr/>
65	\$242,225.00

In addition to the above, a sewage system has been installed at a cost of \$133,000.00

REDWATER

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—23
Value—\$90,930.00

This amount is composed of:

4	Commercial Buildings	\$ 30,000.00
13	Dwellings	52,300.00
6	Miscellaneous	8,630.00
—		
23		\$ 90,930.00

In addition to the above, 1 new church manse was constructed at a cost of \$10,000.00.

RIMBEY

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—23
Value—\$229,725.00

This amount is composed of:

2	Commercial Buildings	\$ 10,800.00
1	Institutional Building	170,000.00
3	Residential Garages	1,150.00
11	Dwellings	32,050.00
1	Public Building	15,000.00
5	Miscellaneous	725.00
—		
23		\$229,725.00

ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—26
Value—\$323,895.00

This amount is composed of:

3	Commercial Buildings	\$ 6,600.00
1	Institutional Building (School)	69,000.00
1	Apartment and Hotel	190,000.00
20	Dwellings	48,295.00
1	Public Buildings (Provincial Garage) ..	10,000.00
—		
26		\$323,895.00

In addition to the above, a sewer extension and waterworks were installed at a cost of \$151,700.00.

SPIRIT RIVER

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—14
Value—\$153,200.00

This amount is composed of:

3	Commercial Buildings	\$ 80,000.00
1	Institutional Building (School addition) ..	33,000.00
8	Dwellings	39,200.00
2	Miscellaneous	1,000.00
—		

\$153,200.00

In addition to the above, 1½ miles of sewer and water mains were installed at a cost of \$100,000.00.

ST. ALBERT

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—57

Value—\$66,900.00

This amount is composed of:

1	Commercial Building	\$ 1,400.00
8	Dwellings	43,000.00
2	Duplex Houses	10,000.00
12	Private Garages	12,500.00
34	Miscellaneous	
<hr/>		
57		\$ 66,900.00

In addition to the above water and sewer installations were completed at a cost of \$126,709.23.

ST. PAUL

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—42

Value—\$200,000.00

This amount is composed of:

9	Commercial Buildings	\$ 79,800.00
26	Dwellings	115,950.00
7	Miscellaneous	4,250.00
<hr/>		
42		\$200,000.00

The following improvements were carried out:

5,100	lineal feet sidewalks	\$ 18,000.00
3,300	lineal feet of sewer mains	8,000.00
	Renovations to Municipal Arena	15,000.00
3,226	lineal feet addition to water mains and Hydrants	20,000.00
<hr/>		
		\$ 61,000.00

STAVELY

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—2

Value—\$8,860.00

This amount is composed of:

2	Dwellings	\$ 8,860.00
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STETTLER

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—101

Value—\$1,165,375.00

This amount is composed of:

38	Commercial Buildings	\$ 240,000.00
1	Apartment and Hotel	50,000.00
59	Dwellings	373,950.00
3	Public Buildings	500,000.00
	Miscellaneous	1,425.00
<hr/>		
101		\$1,165,375.00

The following improvements were carried out:

12,781 square feet sidewalks and crossing and 2,943 lineal feet of curbing	\$ 13,925.70
Sewer extensions and sewer lift station ...	31,273.92
Waterworks extensions	79,717.16
	<hr/>
	\$124,916.78

STONY PLAIN

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—29
Value—\$176,200.00

This amount is composed of:

6 Commercial Buildings	\$ 77,200.00
11 Dwellings	72,200.00
11 Miscellaneous	10,800.00
1 Institutional Building (Church)	16,000.00
<hr/>	<hr/>
29	\$176,200.00

The following improvements were carried out:

1,700 feet of water lines and 1,400 feet of sewer lines were built to extend to the new sub-division where ten houses were built during the year. This extension costing approximately \$13,500.00

STRATHMORE

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—10
Value—\$71,400.00

This amount is composed of:

1 Commercial Building	\$ 21,000.00
5 Dwelling	44,400.00
4 Miscellaneous	6,000.00
<hr/>	<hr/>
10	\$ 71,400.00

SYLVAN LAKE

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—54
Value—\$50,555.00

This amount is composed of:

2 Commercial Buildings	\$ 2,500.00
11 Residential Homes	17,150.00
26 Dwellings (Cabins)	25,705.00
2 Miscellaneous	750.00
13 Garages	4,450.00
<hr/>	<hr/>
54	\$ 50,555.00

In addition to the above, the following improvements were made:

Cement Sidewalks	\$ 4,000.00
5 Street Lamps	200.00
Hard surface No. 11 Highway through town.	

TABER

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—94
Value—\$1,189,790.00

This amount is composed of:

13	Commercial Buildings	\$ 117,540.00
2	Institutional Buildings	13,000.00
62	Dwellings and Additions	432,400.00
2	Public Buildings	612,300.00
6	Miscellaneous	3,800.00
7	Alterations and Additions	10,750.00
<hr/>		
92		\$1,189,790.00

In addition to the above, 4,700 lineal feet of curbs and gutters, and 32,000 lineal feet of sidewalks were completed, at a cost of \$52,000.00. Sewer and water mains are also included in this amount.

TOFIELD

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—16
Value—\$130,000.00

This amount is composed of:

4	Commercial Buildings	\$ 15,000.00
1	Institutional Building	50,000.00
10	Dwellings	51,000.00
1	Miscellaneous	14,000.00
<hr/>		
16		\$130,000.00

In addition to the above, sidewalks were constructed at a cost of \$5,450.00.

VEGREVILLE

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—84
Value—\$785,745.00

This amount is composed of:

4	Commercial Buildings	\$124,000.00
9	Institutional Buildings	210,000.00
37	Dwellings	290,500.00
2	Public Buildings	145,000.00
32	Miscellaneous	16,245.00
<hr/>		
84		\$785,745.00

In addition to the above, approximately 6,500 lineal feet of asphalt sidewalks were constructed this year at a total cost of \$11,588.58.

VERMILION

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—52

Value—\$308,425.00

This amount is composed of:

11	Commercial Buildings	\$102,650.00
40	Dwellings	185,775.00
1	Public Building	20,000.00
<hr/>		
52		\$308,425.00

In addition to the above, 1,200 feet of asphalt sidewalk has been constructed, and 5 miles of street was given asphalt treatment at a cost of \$10,000.00.

VIKING

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—51

Value—\$144,525.00

This amount is composed of:

1	Commercial Building	\$ 4,000.00
1	Institutional Building	1,000.00
9	Dwellings	46,800.00
2	Public Buildings	73,500.00
15	Miscellaneous	5,500.00
23	Additions and Repairs	13,725.00
<hr/>		
51		\$144,525.00

In addition to the above, 4 blocks of new cement sidewalk constructed at an estimated cost of \$2,000.00.

VULCAN

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—50

Value—\$499,500.00

This amount is composed of:

5	Commercial Buildings	\$ 97,800.00
13	Residential Garages	3,650.00
23	Dwellings	167,700.00
2	Public Buildings	229,000.00
5	Miscellaneous	1,350.00
<hr/>		
50		\$499,500.00

WAINWRIGHT

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—112

Value—\$314,524.00

This amount is composed of:

12	Commercial Buildings	\$ 23,000.00
1	Apartment and Hotel	12,000.00
76	Dwellings	173,530.00
1	Public Building	92,344.00
22	Miscellaneous	13,650.00
<hr/>		
112		\$314,524.00

In addition to the above, 5 blocks sewer and water extensions were constructed at a cost of \$55,000.00.

Sidewalks \$ 5,000.00

WESTLOCK

Statement of Building Permits issued in 1953:

Total—5

Value—\$105,333.00

This amount is composed of:

1	Commercial Building	\$ 2,500.00
3	Dwellings	29,500.00
1	Public Building	73,333.00
<hr/>		
5		\$105,333.00

NEW INDUSTRIES — PROVINCIAL COMPLETED OR UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN 1953

Company	Location	Type of Business	Investment	Comments
Auto Lite Co. Ltd.	Calgary	Batteries and Automobile Equipment	\$ 300,000	Purchased land
Building Products Limited	Edmonton Area (Strathcona Municipal District)	Paper Mill (Building Paper, etc.)	1,500,000	Under construction
Canadian Propane Limited	Ponoka	Gas Distribution	60,000	Completed
Continental Can Limited	Calgary	Paper Containers	1,000,000	Purchased land. Under construction
Coleman Collieries Limited	Coleman	Briquettes	500,000	Under construction
Canada Metals Ltd.	Calgary	Lead Processing	100,000	Land Purchased
Hilton Paper Box Co. Ltd.	Calgary	Paper Products	1,100,000	Under construction
John Wood Co. Ltd.	Edmonton	Oil Tanks, Water Heaters and Milk Cans.	300,000	Under construction
McGavin's Limited	Grande Prairie	Bakery Products	120,000	Completed
Oil Equipment Manufacturing Co.	Edmonton	Oil Equipment	125,000	Completed
Products Tank Co.	Edmonton Area (Strathcona Municipal District)	Railway Tank Car Repair	200,000	Under construction
Precast Cement Co.	Edmonton	Cement Products	200,000	Under construction
Roadway Industries Limited	Edmonton	Highway Transport Equipment	45,000	Under construction
Texaco Exploration Company	Bonnie Glen	Propane, Butane and Natural Gasoline	4,000,000	Under construction
Western Cabinet Manufacturing Co. Ltd.	Edmonton	Furniture, etc.	175,000	Under construction
Willard Battery Co. Limited	Calgary	Storage Batteries	325,000	Under construction
Total			\$10,050,000	

COMPLETED EXTENSIONS TO PLANTS AND WAREHOUSES, BRANCH OFFICES AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESSES — PROVINCIAL

Company		Type of Business	Investment
Alexandra Brick & Tile Co.	Edmonton Area (Cannell)	Clay Products	\$ 500,000
Atlas Steel Co. Ltd.	Edmonton	Steel Products	150,000
Building Products Ltd.	Edmonton Area (Strathcona Municipal District)	Roofing Materials	105,000
British American Paint Company Limited	Edmonton	Paint	140,000
Bate and Alberta Drug Company Limited	Edmonton	Medical Supplies	100,000
Borger Bros. & Co. Ltd.	Edmonton	General Contractors	60,000
Chrysler Motor Car Ltd.	Red Deer	Automotive	500,000
Canadian Industries Ltd.	Edmonton Area (Strathcona Municipal District)	Polythene	1,000,000
Canadian Meter Co. Ltd.	Edmonton	Meters	38,000
Canadian Freightways Ltd.	Edmonton	Freight Transport	80,000
Congdon Van and Storage Co.	Edmonton	Freight Transport	40,000
Cassidy's Limited	Edmonton	Glassware, China, etc.	420,000 (approx.)
Dunlop Tire and Rubber Company Limited	Edmonton	Rubber Products	100,000
Dunlop Tire and Rubber Company Limited	Calgary	Rubber Products	150,000
Dairy Supply Limited	Edmonton	Dairy Equipment	100,000
Eaton, T. Company	Lethbridge	Department Stores	2,000,000
Fruehauf Trailer Co. Ltd.	Edmonton	Highway Transport Equipment	200,000
Firestone Tire and Rubber Company Limited	Edmonton	Rubber Products	90,000
Franklin Supply Company	Edmonton	Oil Equipment	50,000
Fry-Cadbury Limited	Red Deer	Confectionery	75,000 (approx.)
General Motors Corp. Ltd.	Edmonton	Automotive	800,000
Gutta Percha Rubber Co. Ltd.	Edmonton	Rubber Products	125,000
	Calgary	Paper Products	100,000
Halliburton Oil Well Cementing Company	Edmonton	Oil Field Servicing	250,000
Imperial Bank of Canada	Edmonton	Financial	1,000,000
Imperial Oil Limited	Edmonton	Petroleum	105,000
Jefferies and Sons Ltd.	Calgary	Light Aggregate Blocks	40,000

John Deere Limited	Edmonton	Agricultural Implements	550,000
Lucey Export Co. Ltd.	Edmonton	Industrial Equipment	50,000
Loveseth Limited	Edmonton	Automotive	450,000
Latta, Alex Limited	Edmonton	Welding Supplies, etc.	35,000
Medicine Hat Brick and Tile Limited	Medicine Hat	Clay Products	400,000
McColl Frontenac Oil Co. Limited	Edmonton Area (Strathcona Municipal District)	Petroleum Products	4,000,000
Metals Limited	Edmonton	Steel Products	600,000
McLennan, McFeeley & Prior	Edmonton	Steel Products	100,000
MacCosham Limited	Edmonton	Cartage and Storage	400,000
Mid-Continent Supply Co.	Edmonton	Oil Well Supplies	95,000
Machinery and Construction Company	Edmonton	Contractors	36,000
Neon-Zeon Products	Calgary	Neon Products Signs	271,000
Northern Engineering and Equipment Company	Edmonton	Industrial Equipment	35,000
Pratts Bottling Works	Peace River	Carbonated Beverages	30,000
Precision Machine and Foundry	Edmonton	Machine Shop	150,000
Regent Drilling Co. Ltd.	Edmonton	Oil Field Service	150,000
Reynolds Motors Ltd.	Wetaskiwin	Automotive	300,000
Soo Freight Lines Limited	Edmonton	Freight Transport	50,000
Sidney Roofing and Paper Company Limited	Lloydminster	Roofing Materials	700,000
Silverwoods Dairy Limited	Edmonton	Dairy Products	250,000
Smith-Connors Diamond Drilling Company	Red Deer	Drilling Supplies	50,000
Sterling Furniture Co.	Edmonton	Furniture	60,000
Taylor-Pearson Limited	Edmonton	Machine Shop	100,000
Woodland Dairy Limited	Edmonton	Dairy Products	275,000
Western Grocers Limited	Edmonton	Wholesale Grocers	625,000
Western Supplies Limited	Red Deer	Plumbing Supplies	70,000
Seidler, W. R. Limited	Edmonton	Wooden Sash and Door	180,000

Total \$18,330,000

OIL AND GAS IN ALBERTA — 1953

While development of our natural resources in 1953 may have lacked some of the spectacular features of previous years, it was a year of steady growth. As a result of developments in this Province over the past seven years, crude oil has become the principal Canadian mineral. The extension of previously discovered pools and discovery of new ones brought our daily production potential to 317,000 barrels per day in December. The principal discovery of the past year was made in the vicinity of Drayton Valley, where the Cardium Sandstone, a formation of Upper Cretaceous age is producing high grade crude oil from wells scattered over a wide area. The original Sturgeon Lake discovery in the Peace River has been extended to 20 miles in length. Further drilling will be required to determine if production is being obtained from the same or separate pools.

During the year, the Trans-Mountain pipeline connecting Edmonton to the Pacific Coast was completed and went into operation in October. Oil is being carried to the refineries in the Vancouver area. Off-shore markets did not develop as anticipated, due to a sudden drop in tanker rates on oil from Asiatic sources. This situation, which is believed to be temporary, has kept deliveries considerably below previous estimates.

The Southern Ontario market was directly connected with the Edmonton terminal by a 30 inch diameter line stretching 635 miles from Superior, Wisconsin to Sarnia, Ontario. This line will provide a much more economic connection than did the combined pipeline and tanker facilities for the handling of large volumes of oil. As a consequence, our market will not be subject to the severe seasonal market fluctuations which characterized it while the Interprovincial Pipeline was terminated at the head of the Lakes.

Natural gas licenses including 13 Crown Reserve licenses totalled 47 and comprised 1,861,188 acres. The 23 natural gas leases contained 163,917 acres.

In the Homeglen-Rimbey area a major gas reserve with a thin zone of very high grade oil was discovered. Pending further delineation of the reservoir the Conservation Board has conservatively estimated that it contains 500 billion cubic feet of disposable gas.

Natural gas production totalled 113,960,664,000 cubic feet compared with 95,697,432,000 cubic feet in 1952; of this total, 63,722,-182,000 cubic feet were marketed in Alberta; 10,067,095,000 cubic feet were exported to British Columbia and Montana and 25,464,-012,000 cubic feet were wasted due, principally, to lack of an economic market for gas produced in conjunction with oil.

During the first full year of operation of the **SULPHUR** sulphur plants at Jumping Pound and Turner Valley 18,298 short tons of sulphur were produced. The principal market for Alberta sulphur is with the West Coast pulp and paper industry. Nevertheless, some of the production of this young industry did find its way into international commerce as 3,000 tons were shipped to Brazil and 1,100 tons to Ceylon.

OIL AND GAS REVIEW FOR 1953

Production of crude oil in 1953 was 76,818,432 barrels, an increase over 1952 of 17,902,709 barrels. The value of this production was \$193,118,494.44, being an increase over 1952 of \$53,460,579.00.

Leases and Reservations:

The number of active petroleum and natural gas leases at December 31st, 1953, totalled 23,343 comprising 19,149,799 acres. There were 396 reservations totalling in area 23,514,752 acres.

Drilling Operations:

Footage drilled totalled 6,422,889 feet, a decrease of 208,640 feet below 1952. Well completions also fell in 1953 to 1,559, a decrease of 87 wells.

PRACTICAL ASSISTANCE TO INDUSTRY

The Alberta Marketing Act empowers the Provincial Marketing Board to assist all or any industries within the Province. The following material will serve to illustrate some of the efforts which have been successful.

During 1953 the Board, through its Crown Corporation, Marketing Services Limited, maintained stocks of the M.S.L. Disc Sharpener and the special grindstone designed to be used with it. Now that this implement is firmly established, the active manufacture by Marketing Services Limited has been discontinued.

TILLER DISC SHARPENERS

This service of the Board from the time of inception of an idea, the obtaining of the Patent, the manufacture and sale in large quantities of the implement has been of great aid to farmers in every Province West from Ontario.

A very large inventory of materials and parts have been provided by the Board, through its Crown Corporation, Marketing Services Limited, throughout 1953. This has contributed to a marked increase in the number of furnaces manufactured in the Province. The excellence of this product has resulted in heavy sales and every furnace is a silent advertiser of "Made-in-Alberta" goods.

FURNACE MANUFACTURING

During 1953 the Board, acting as agent for the Trustees of the Oil Sands Project continued its supervision of the Refinery at Bitumount which has been maintained in good physical condition. Its operation on former lines has not been considered necessary. Important developments of this natural resource can be anticipated in the near future, particularly along the line of new and different methods of separation of the oil from the sand.

OIL SANDS PROJECT

The subsidiary company, operated by this Board under the name of Prairie Woollen Mills, Limited, ceased to operate during the late fall of 1953. The mill closed its doors in a solvent position, without leaving an unsatisfied creditor or a defaulting debtor. Conditions in the World Wool Markets in Aus-

THE WOOLLEN MILL— MAGRATH

tralia and New Zealand, competition from admixtures of cotton, rayon, or synthetic fibres all conspired to reduce the demand for the higher quality, higher priced articles manufactured of 100% pure wool, which were the only type of product the Mill had been designed for. The land, buildings and contents have been widely advertised for sale by tender but it is not thought to be probable that a purchaser will be found who will be interested in reopening the plant for the manufacture of all-wool blankets.

Salt production in 1953 was 25,182 tons and all came **SALT** from the plant at Elk Point, Alberta. Construction planned at the plant for the year 1954 will increase its capacity to produce fused salt for western industrial use.

A new industry using salt as its raw product has started operations at Duvernay. Salt produced in the area is being converted to caustic soda and chlorine by an electrolytic process. Ten tons of salt will be processed daily to produce 13 tons of caustic soda and 11 tons of chlorine. Part of the chlorine is used to produce hydrochloric acid which is required by the oil industry to acidize wells. The caustic soda is going to the petrochemical industry. Both these products can be used extensively by other industries and the plant is an important step in the development of secondary industries in the Province.

Although continued loss of markets to other fuels **COAL** continued to have an adverse effect on the coal industry, possibly the mild weather in the last two winters has been the principal reason for the decreased production. Production in 1953 totalled 5,917,423 tons, a decrease of 1,277,049 tons from the 1952 total.

There has been a continued interest in the possibility of discovering uranium and other **MINERAL** metallic ores in commercial quantities in the **EXPLORATION** area north of Lake Athabasca. During the past year 1351 quartz claims were issued, an increase of 1,119 over the previous year. No commercial discoveries have been reported, but a number of promising indications have been found that uranium may yet be discovered in large enough quantities to make development possible.

The Board continued to operate as **SALE OF USED** Agent for all Government Departments in **MOTOR VEHICLES** the sale of used Motor Vehicles, passenger cars, trucks, and mechanical equipment such as Bulldozers and Caterpillars. Each sale is advertised in daily papers throughout the Province. The advertisement requests the general public to bid for vehicles by sealed Tenders. The result of the sales during 1953 was the disposal of 133 motor vehicles at a total selling value of \$109,411.46.

F.—MARKETING SERVICES LIMITED

Marketing Services Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Provincial Marketing Board and operates the trading accounts as are referred to in the Auditor's Statement for 1953. Attention is drawn to the following points of interest:

After providing reserves for bad debts and stock obsolescence, a net profit was realized as shown by the Auditor's Statement. It is to be noted that this Corporation, as a trading activity, is required before net profits are determined to pay from its operation all salaries, interest on borrowed capital and all other expenses incurred in its operation.

G.—COMPARATIVE TABLES ON ALBERTA INDUSTRIES

The figures which follow—provided by the Provincial Statistician—are worthy of close study. Certain definite conclusions can be drawn from them. The reader must be impressed by the excess of increase figures over decreases. The growth of manufacturing, the oil industry and agriculture is demonstrated numerically and in dollar value.

STATISTICS—ALBERTA—1953

	1953	1952	Increase	Decrease
Retail Sales	\$ 972,688,000	944,123,000	28,565,000	
Wholesale Sales	\$ 575,000,000	540,000,000	35,000,000	
Wage and Salary Earners	No. 215,000	208,000	7,000	
Capital Expenditures	\$ 530,000,000	510,150,000	19,850,000	
Value of Manufacturers' Products	\$ 641,200,000	567,700,000	73,500,000	
Flour Mills:				
Production	Bbbs. 3,410,097	3,578,050		167,953
Sales	\$ 29,740,477	29,489,375	251,102	
Packing Plants				
Sales	\$ 115,975,555	118,308,039		2,332,484
Production—Meat	Lbs. 292,648,801	272,533,793	20,115,008	
Exports—Meat	Lbs. 145,476,834	137,653,730	7,823,104	
Butter Production (Creamery)	Lbs. 29,993,363	27,647,221	2,346,142	
Cheese Production (Factory)	Lbs. 2,789,608	2,022,391	767,217	
Coal:				
Production	Tons 5,917,423	7,194,472		1,277,049
Value	\$ 32,158,435	39,974,318		7,815,883
Petroleum:				
Production	Bbbs. 76,818,432	58,908,722	17,909,710	
Value	\$ 193,118,494	139,657,915	53,460,579	
Refined Petroleum Products				
Gross Sales	\$ 118,815,888	109,623,572	9,192,316	
Salt Production	Tons 24,903	24,388	515	
Defence Contracts Awarded				
Value	\$ 14,734,770	27,014,090		12,279,320

RETAIL TRADE—ALBERTA

Summary for 1953 as compared with 1952

Particulars	1952	1953	Increase	Decrease
Grocery and Combination Stores	\$118,976,000	\$113,824,000	\$ 5,152,000	\$
Meat Stores	14,648,000	14,612,000	36,000	
Country General Stores	61,905,000	61,949,000		44,000
Department Stores	102,262,000	96,319,000	5,943,000	
Variety Stores	12,399,000	11,433,000	966,000	
Motor Vehicle Dealers	210,989,000	219,791,000		8,802,000
Garage and Filling Stations	55,946,000	50,186,000	5,760,000	
Men's Clothing Stores	16,048,000	16,037,000	11,000	
Family Clothing Stores	12,414,000	11,809,000	605,000	
Women's Clothing Stores	18,181,000	15,529,000	2,652,000	
Shoe Stores	5,564,000	5,319,000	245,000	
Hardware Stores	29,285,000	27,889,000	1,396,000	
Lumber and Building Material Dealers	57,057,000	51,838,000	5,219,000	
Furniture Stores	10,929,000	11,042,000		113,000
Appliance and Radio Stores	18,648,000	17,051,000	1,597,000	
Restaurants	39,218,000	40,760,000		1,542,000
Coal and Wood Dealers	482,000	702,000		220,000
Drug Stores	20,400,000	19,544,000	856,000	
Jewellery Stores	7,829,000	7,679,000	150,000	
Tobacco Stores	2,301,000	2,088,000	213,000	
All Other Trades	157,207,000	148,722,000	8,485,000	
	\$972,688,000	\$944,123,000	\$39,286,000	\$10,721,000

COMPANIES INCORPORATED AND REGISTERED—ALBERTA YEAR 1953

Classification	Number	Authorized Capital \$
A		
Accounting and Business Aids	5	660,000
Advertising	6	355,000
Agricultural Products Dealers	3	60,000
Air Transport and Servicing	7	256,000
Aluminum and Allied Chemicals	2	310,000
Auctioneers	1	30,000
Auto Courts	5	180,000
Automotive	72	4,764,000
B		
Bakery Products and Confectionery	2	40,000
Beauty Salons and Barber Shops	2	40,000
Beverages, Brewers, Distilleries	4	90,000
Bookbinding, Printing and Publishing	16	636,000
Boots and Shoes	1	20,000
Brick and Tile, Floor Covering	5	106,500
Brokers, Investment Dealers and Financial Management	61	28,302,600
Building Materials	24	3,325,000
Butchers and Meat Packers	3	60,000
C		
Cash Registers	1	20,000
Cement	2	220,000
Clinics	2	70,000
Clothing and Dry Goods	22	591,000
Cold Storage	6	160,000
Cosmetics	1	15,000
Credit Societies and Fraternal Orders	3	170,000
D		
Dairy Products, Eggs and Poultry	4	160,000
Disinfectants, Bleaches, Sanitary Supplies	4	91,000
Drilling Contractors	28	9,945,000
Drugs, Dental and Medical Supplies	12	397,000
E		
Electrical Batteries	18	995,000
Engineers	22	700,000
Explosives and Gunpowder	1	20,000
F		
Farming and Ranching	26	830,000
Farm Machinery	18	482,500
Fire Equipment and Safety Equipment	2	18,500
Florists and Greenhouses	4	75,000
Fuel Dealer Distributors	2	350,000
Funeral Directors	3	320,000
Furniture	5	190,000
Furriers	3	41,000
Food Manufacturers	3	57,750
G		
Garage	35	960,000
General Contractors	140	6,117,960
General Merchants	94	4,722,000
Geophysical	8	1,181,000
Grain and Flour Merchants	2	40,000
Gravel and Sand	1	20,000
Grocers	4	120,000
H		
Hardware	15	350,000
Holding Companies	36	4,073,000
Hotels	36	1,575,000
Hydraulic Lifts	1	20,000

Classification	Number	Authorized Capital \$
I		
Insurance	11	218,000
Iron and Steel	12	625,000
J, K, L		
Janitors Service	1	30,000
Jewellers	3	60,000
Laundry	4	80,000
Legal Services	1	20,000
Linseed Oil Manufacturers	1	25,000
Livestock	1	20,000
Lumber	27	1,030,000
M, N, O		
Machine Companies	19	1,655,000
Manufacturers' Agents	17	1,530,000
Mechanical Bowling Pin Setting Machine	2	264,500
Mining and Coal	19	11,289,000
Mineral Prospecting	1	80,000
News Distribution	6	2,610,000
Office Machinery and Equipment	9	301,000
Oilfield Machinery	16	2,636,000
Oil Well Servicing	4	80,000
Optical	2	40,000
Oxygen and Acetylene Gases	1	120,000
P, Q		
Painters and Decorators	2	40,000
Petroleum Exploration	113	64,961,500
Photography and Supplies	5	115,000
Pipe Lines	11	5,280,600
Plaster and Stucco	1	20,000
Plastics	1	20,000
Plumbing and Heating	24	1,060,000
Pulpwood, Paper, Matches	1	20,000
R		
Railway Car Repair Shops	1	300,000
Radios, Stations and Television	10	560,000
Real Estate	95	7,935,000
Recreation	27	1,645,000
Refrigeration and Deep Freeze Units	1	20,000
Research and Labs	1	20,000
Restaurant	10	196,500
Road Improvement and Maintenance	4	590,000
Rock Bits and Allied Equipment	1	80,000
S		
Safety Device and Consultant Service	1	20,000
Schools, Vacation	2	25,000
Sewing Machines	4	70,000
Sheet Metal Works	10	261,000
Soft Water Service	1	20,000
Storage Warehouses	2	1,020,000
Surveyors	1	40,000
T		
Telephone	16	68,755
Theatres	20	2,000,000
Transportation	46	1,604,506
Truckers	16	440,000
U - Z		
Uranium	1	85,000
Utilities	10	300,000
Vendors	2	50,000
Weather Consultants	1	15,000
Weiding and Machine Foundry	5	150,000
TOTALS	1,386	\$186,069,171

REVIEW OF BUSINESS CONDITIONS — ALBERTA, 1953

Economic activity in Alberta remained at a high level throughout 1953, but difficulties were being experienced in some sectors of the economy by the end of the year.

Although bumper crops were harvested on the prairies the difficulties presently being encountered in getting the crops to market are causing concern to farmers and farm organizations. It is yet too early to determine the full effect of the drop in farm income on retail sales but it is noteworthy that retail sales in country stores were holding steady throughout the first three quarters of 1953 as compared with the same quarters in 1952.

Alberta's population was estimated at 1,002,000 in June, 1953, an increase of 200,000 since the 1946 Census. The increase for the three prairie provinces since the 1946 Census is in the neighborhood of 400,000 which represents a sizeable development of domestic markets for all types of businesses. The population of the prairies (2,672,000) has reached a point where it is now economical for larger manufacturing firms to set up plants to serve western markets. The growth of population has been complemented by a generally prosperous and buoyant economy during the postwar period, and of course both the population and the economy during the period have been stimulated by the discovery and development of the oil and uranium resources of the area.

A fair proportion of new plants will supply materials for the construction industry. In terms of dollar values new petroleum processing plants and extensions to plants will involve the heaviest investments. These petroleum plants will be in the northern part of the province close to existing oil, gas and refining areas. Under construction in Calgary are large paper products plants. It is especially interesting to note that that city is rapidly becoming the battery manufacturing centre of Western Canada with two more plants plus a plant to supply lead plates, in prospect. In other centres outside the two large cities of Edmonton and Calgary the new plants, planned or completed, generally speaking are petroleum processors.

Industrial Development Boards of the larger centres are making every effort, in anticipation of an increasing demand for favourable sites, to prepare industrial areas for use by new firms.

Two major oilfields were discovered during 1953: the Sturgeon Lake field, approximately 50 miles east of Grande Prairie, and the Pembina field about 80 miles west of Edmonton. A major oilfield is one having proven recoverable reserves of over 100,000 barrels of crude oil. It is believed that the Pembina field may have reserves comparable to those of the Redwater field.

Oil company officials report a slackening in activities pending clarification of the natural gas export issue. In November, 1953 the Conservation Board announced that proven gas reserves now total 11.5 trillion c.f. Provincial and Federal government authorities indicated that the exportable surplus would be piped to eastern markets. Financial and constructional arrangements are in progress.

Completion of the Superior, Wisconsin - Sarnia, Ontario link of the Interprovincial Pipeline has enabled Alberta Oil producers to maintain a much higher rate of oil production during the winter

months of 1953. Daily rates for December, 1953 approximated 255,000 barrels compared with 180,000 in December, 1952.

Exclusive of petroleum, production of other minerals presents a somewhat spotty picture. Coal mining is suffering severely from competition with petroleum products. Conversion of railway locomotives to diesel fuel, and the introduction of propane gas appliances to rural and village homes, are removing the best local market of coal mines. The Alberta Research Council and officials of the Dominion Department of Mines and Technical Resources are searching for alternative uses for Alberta coal and for means of reducing its cost of mining to an economically competitive level.

Sales of clay products, brick and tile, are holding firm at last year's levels. Indeed in the July-September period they were 11% above 1952 figures.

There has been a marked increase in cement production since completion of the Canada Cement Company plant extension at the Exshaw site. Lime production has dropped in tonnage but prices appear well above 1952 levels.

Fishery production was 20% above that of 1952 in poundage, and only 12% higher in value, indicating that price per pound has declined slightly.

Wild fur peltings declined considerably but the decrease in value was not so marked. The more valuable types of animal are being trapped.

While the value of construction contracts awarded is about 7% below the values shown in 1952 the decrease is due largely to the completion of such major industrial projects as the \$70,000,000 Canadian Chemical Plant, the \$13,500,000 C.I.L. polythene plant, and the various oil refineries. Residential construction is up by 60% and business and warehouse construction by 15%. Despite the drop in value of industrial construction there has been an increase in the number of units, indicating a rise in the number of secondary types of industries.

The farm electrification programme is ahead of expectations; at the end of 1952 some 23,000 farms had been connected to power lines of major distributors. Connections to farms were made at the average rate of about 400 per month during 1953.

Wholesale and Retail trade have been relatively stable throughout 1953, at from 5% to 7% above the previous year's levels. Much of the inflationary pressure was absent from the economy during 1953 and it is probable that the increases represent actual increases in the volume of goods moved. On the other hand an impression has been gained that sales are less than they might have been; people have been paying off debts incurred earlier or "shopping around" more. The change from a seller's to a buyer's market has become noticeable.

Hardware wholesalers report that business has been steady throughout the year. Prices have been affected by freight rate increases, walkouts and strikes. Supply is overtaking demand in some lines and there has been a tapering off in sales of certain lines such as electrical appliances, radios, washing machines, etc.

Dry goods wholesalers report an increase of about 5% over previous year's sales. There has been a slight easing of prices in some lines but not sufficient to make a significant impression.

Footwear sales for the first three quarters of the year also showed a 5% increase, but there was a compensating decrease in October due to the light demand for heavy winter footwear. Prices in the footwear industry have been maintained at a stable level, and there is no indication that they will be easing off in the near future.

Wholesale grocers report another good year, with volume of sales about 7% above those in 1952. The increases have been fairly uniform in each quarter.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX — 1953

It has been a practice to include in this Annual Report a comparison of Cost of Living Indices as supplied by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The basis for such information has changed and the figures which follow are on the basis of 1949 = 100, and are concentrated under fewer headings. It will be noted that the total index was identical for the month of December in 1952 and 1953. The low point of 114.4 reached in May, 1953 ended a sustained monthly lowering of the Index since November, 1952 and the trend at the end of 1953 was downward. The average Index for the year was 115.5.

	Total	Food	Shelter	Clothing	Household Operation	Other Commodities and Services
YEAR 1952						
January	118.2	122.4	118.3	114.9	116.4	115.5
February	117.6	120.8	118.3	113.5	116.3	115.8
March	116.9	117.6	119.1	112.9	116.9	116.4
April	116.8	117.2	119.4	112.5	116.8	116.6
May	115.9	115.5	119.6	112.3	116.2	115.6
June	116.0	115.7	120.4	111.8	115.9	115.7
July	116.1	116.0	120.6	111.7	115.9	115.6
August	116.0	115.7	120.6	111.6	115.8	115.8
September	116.1	115.8	121.2	110.9	116.0	115.8
October	116.0	115.1	121.5	109.9	116.2	116.4
November	116.1	115.7	121.4	109.8	115.9	116.6
December	115.8	114.1	122.2	109.7	116.1	116.6
YEAR 1953						
January	115.7	113.5	122.3	109.7	116.5	116.7
February	115.5	112.7	122.5	109.6	116.6	116.7
March	114.8	111.6	122.5	109.7	116.7	115.2
April	114.6	110.9	122.7	109.7	116.9	115.0
May	114.4	110.1	122.9	110.1	116.6	115.1
June	114.9	111.4	123.6	110.1	116.6	115.1
July	115.4	112.7	123.9	110.3	117.0	115.2
August	115.7	112.8	124.1	110.4	117.2	115.8
September	116.2	114.0	124.2	110.4	117.4	115.9
October	116.7	115.5	124.5	110.3	117.5	116.0
November	116.2	113.4	125.0	110.3	117.4	116.3
December	115.8	112.1	125.2	110.2	117.4	116.3

GENERAL BUSINESS REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

In 1953 Canadian Economy soared to new heights. Soft spots showed in prices for some lines of goods, signifying an end to the seller's market.

Gross National product rose some 5%, while farm incomes sagged. Employment has held up well, with skilled labour continuing in demand. However, in certain areas employment is following a downward trend.

Export Markets, except in the case of Germany and Japan, reflect keener competition. Expected tightening of United States economy, because of that country's changed Political picture, did not result. In fact there has been increased inclination to a review of Tariff and Customs problems, as well as much talk of free trade, though as yet little action has been taken.

The cost-of-living rose slightly but, under a new formula, seems to have reached its peak. With income up, consumers spending rose, with public savings likewise.

Credit buying increased by 50% since the relaxation of credit controls in the early part of 1953. The Canadian dollar continues at a premium. This can be credited to heavy investment in this country. The end of open hostilities in Korea has brought about a levelling off of Defence spending.

Supply situations in many goods seem destined to "normalcy". Particularly is this found to be the case with steel.

Production of television sets and automobiles continues to record highs, and expansion in these fields was particularly noticeable in 1953.

With per capita consumption up, prices of consumer goods average about 1% lower. Capital outlays rose 9% to \$5.6 billions, and for the first time in Canadian history, housing units hit six figures, with estimates at an even one hundred thousand "starts".

Value of exports to the United States rose 6%. Imports climbed 12% in value and 14% in volume for the first ten months to reflect lower priced merchandise in International Markets.

Changing conditions within our economy should not be overlooked. There may be, for many, disappointing times ahead, for many unable, for one reason or another, to keep pace with developing competition.

There will be marketing problems for some Industries to contend with, such as, textiles, farm implements and electrical appliances.

The Motor Vehicle Industry will have a mounting problem to face in 1954, with the rapid increase in second hand inventories, both from the standpoint of numbers and capital invested.

INVENTORIES

Inventory-Sales ratios are badly distorted in isolated instances. Total business stocks continued to grow in the Third Quarter, despite the fact that production cuts, aimed at curtailing inventory accumulation, had been going on for about six months. In October, accumulation apparently ended at the manufacturing level but was still continuing at retail.

In order to bring inventory growth to a halt and to precipitate some healthy liquidation, production has to fall faster than sales. The relation between production inventory and sales deserves careful watching in the months immediately ahead.

Department Store sales which declined 1.7% in October rallied during November. The estimated gain is 2.8% over 1952. December has seen a continued rally in retail turnover, seasonable lines beginning to catch up with an active and generous holiday specialty trade. At the time of this report, retail turnover is expected to touch the twelve billion dollar mark, with consumer spending on goods and services near fifteen billion, an estimated increase of 5%. This Last Quarter rally will assist greatly in levelling out inventories, particularly in seasonable lines.

CAUTION

In 1954, Canadian Producers and Business men are going to feel the effect of keener competition, both at home and abroad. The demand for our primary products will not, it is anticipated, be as great as last year.

In the case of grains, particularly wheat, a serious marketing problem is presented. One step which might be taken to advantage would be to reduce our floor price on this commodity, thereby making it more competitive in the markets of the world. This is a point which will require serious consideration. Competition in the domestic market for finished products may also be expected to be quite keen.

To offset a potential levelling out of sales, the automotive industry are making plans for an aggressive sales campaign in 1954.

Another look at the increase in the amount of consumer credit shows that the rate of increase has been much greater than that of personal income, and if this trend continues, a period of declining income might cause quick repercussions, affecting future sales, particularly automobiles, electrical appliances and other durable items.

All this reflects the necessity for caution in 1954, caution of a possible dumping on a Buyers' market which, in itself, has a tendency to increase competition.

In the United States it is considered that dumping might become a characteristic of 1954, just as the increasing competition has been a characteristic of 1953.

In one minor farm product, Linseed Oil, the United States Government is dumping its surplus into the Export market at just about one-half the United States internal price.

In the major surplus farm products, and in those industrial goods for which the United States has a surplus capacity, there are indications of some odd occurrences but no confirmation has yet been shown of wholesale dumping but again in the United States, caution is being taken by those deeply interested in both domestic and export markets.

LOOKING FORWARD

Canada is growing at a rapid rate. Our population is now increasing at an annual rate of $2\frac{1}{2}\%$. To keep step, large capital programs are required for associated requirements, for housing,

social, capital and consumer goods, and as this year ends there remains large accumulated needs for schools, roads and other welfare, as well as commercial facilities. Special attention to these needs will be required at both Federal and Provincial Government levels.

A decrease is forecast for Overseas sales of paper products, industrial machinery, copper wire and tubing and aluminum products, as well as a further drop in sales, both Overseas and in the United States of America, for the producers of farm machinery. These decreases, together with an easing in domestic demand, may mean a severe slow-down of current operations.

LUMBER (Western Canada)

Prices on all items, both clear and common, have remained fairly firm. Orders have been rather spotty but this is normal for most lumber yards are faced with inventory problems. From past experience plus information on prospects for 1954, it would appear that circumstantial placements will be made for spring delivery. The heavy placements could well result in an advantage for both clear and common lumber, beyond the current levels. Specified cutting for prompt delivery is difficult to obtain. Larger Mills have order files for the First Quarter of 1954, and are somewhat thinking in terms of higher prices. Prices for dimension, i.e. 2" x 4" and wider, are decidedly firm.

LUMBER (Eastern Canada)

The price of lumber is remaining comparatively steady, considering the lack of business. The winter cut of lumber will be substantially reduced from last year. Increased business is being looked for from expected new mortgage regulations. There appears to be no visible reason for lumber to drop rapidly in this market.

TEXTILE MARKET

Quiet is the word for the current textile situation. The holiday season superimposed on a relatively inactive market does not make for any beehive of activity. In 1954 anything can happen. In the trade many say that 1954 will be good, but with a backlog of orders considerably below what it has been in previous years, at this time there seems to be no sound foundation for an optimistic attitude.

COTTON

Activity in Canadian Cotton Mills during November showed no recovery whatever from the low levels to which it has dropped in recent months. The Cotton Institute of Canada reports a total of 26,783 bales were opened, a drop of 13% for the same month one year ago. Light weight cotton sheeting and print cloth are in plentiful supply, with demand remaining the same. Prices are stationary, except in some cases they have been lower to meet import competition.

INDUSTRIAL ALCOHOL

One reason for the weakness in industrial alcohol is that the United States Government, which had been taking eighty million gallons a year to make synthetic rubber, has stopped buying since last Summer. This is a reminder that curtailment of synthetic

rubber output does not necessarily raise tital production costs. Since curtailment amounts to concentrating the lower output in the most efficient plants, using the cheaper raw materials, it could conceivably reduce them. Curtailment is bound to raise overhead costs per unit, since the inoperative plants require maintenance costs: they ought to be, and presumably are, maintained in stand-by condition, so that they can be used again in an emergency or be sold if the Government is serious about selling them. But, the dropping of the expensive alcohol-base synthetic cuts average raw material costs. As all the synthetic is now petroleum-based, price easiness in the oil products tends to cut them further.

FUEL OIL

The fuel oil situation remains unchanged. Prices remain firm with the possibility of any change being on the downward side. There is plenty of oil, and stocks are being well maintained. Transportation conditions are good.

COFFEE

Coffee is very much in the news these days with frost conditions in Brazil having rapidly caused price increases already reflected in consumer prices, and endangered "ten cent coffee". The issue is such a live one that there are numerous cases in the United States where both private citizens and businesses are seeking to block the latest price hike by discouraging coffee consumption.

Devices in use range all the way from signed pledges to hotels who bribe diners with five-cent prices pasted to their menus on condition that guests order something other than coffee. Canada's "meatless Tuesdays" of war-time were appearing as possible "coffee-less Thursdays" in Toledo, for instance.

Whatever the price increase cause, it focussed attention on the coffee bean as it never has been in some time. Rumors were that stronger European demand might have had a good deal to do with higher prices — including the possibility that coffee producing countries were holding supplies off the market.

For its part, Canada is at present rated as the world's seventh largest coffee market and Canadians, per capita, stand ninth as coffee drinkers. Consumption in Canada has tripled during the past fifteen years. Ninety per cent of Canadian coffee purchases are made in South America with Brazil supplying forty-three per cent of the total. In 1952 Canada's Brazilian coffee bill was \$21,285,000 for 317,339 bags. Contrasted is the United States of America coffee tab which totalled \$669,400,000 for an undisclosed number of beans.

It is interesting to note that coffee represents seventy-three per cent of the total value of Brazil's exports, with cocoa and cotton, though respectively, placing second and third, having shown a marked slump during the past two years.

In the quarter century from 1926 to 1951 the quantity of coffee packed in Canada increased nearly five times to 7,418,000 pounds, while the amount of tea packed rose only 50% to 44,218,000 pounds. Prior to 1938 more tea than coffee was packed, but in 1943 coffee took the lead and steadily increased it until 1949 when seventy per cent more coffee than tea was packed.

PULP AND PAPER

The pulp and paper industry has become one of the main cogs in the economy of British Columbia. For a number of years it has provided a higher degree of stability than almost any other industry and despite the rapid extension of recent years the outlook is promising enough to have caused five or six large projects, totalling in value from \$150 million to \$200 million, to be placed in the initial planning stage.

Current production is at peak levels with total output from some mills sold under contract for 1954. The outlook for newsprint continues to be particularly good, barring any substantial decline in United States exchange.

RUBBER

World rubber production fell off 3.8 per cent while consumption of natural rubber dug into the available supply by last year increasing 7.9 per cent above the 1952 mark.

Production of synthetic rubber, according to a release of the United States Business and Defence Services Administration, was up, standing at 935,000 long tons, excluding Russian activity. Consumption of synthetic rubber was reported down.

STEEL

Steel scrap prices took their third sharp tumble in three weeks at year's end, as Hamilton steel mills informed scrap dealers of their January policy. One major Hamilton mill will go out of the market entirely. Another has reduced intake to a trickle, while dropping nominal quotations a further \$3.00 per gross ton across the board. Over the past year, steel mills in Canada have virtually withdrawn from the domestic scrap market, and prices paid to Canadian dealers have dropped approximately one-third to one-half for various grades.

Canadian industry, which continually "makes" scrap, has found it difficult to understand why this falling market has no relation to the unchanged prices of new steel products. Scrap normally accounts for half of the raw material charged into steel furnaces, and Canada's steel production for 1953 may top a record 4.2 million tons.

Nevertheless, the steel industry appears to have drawn upon its still large inventories rather than upon scrap generated by Canadian industry. Exports have not been sufficient to keep pace with this output. As a result, scrap dealers who service industry find the material backing up in their yards to a serious extent.

ELECTRIC SERVICE

Canadians enjoy one of the lowest rates for electric service in the world. In the United States the average revenue per kilowatt hour sold to residential customers was 2.81 cents in 1951 as against 1.65 cents in Canada, while commercial and industrial sales averaged 1.4 cents per kilowatt hour in the United States as compared with 0.6 cents in Canada.

CANADA'S PROSPECTS

Industrial activity at year end showed more of a normal seasonal pattern. Business held at November levels throughout the first half of December, but has since shown indications of sharp

declines in new orders, accompanied by further production cutbacks, continuing the narrow gap between falling order books and production. Prices are levelling out, with no real show of strength. Inventories are down again, and in better balance; in fact some have reached bottom. Employment is lower, much of it attributed to the normal, seasonal decline. Buying policy remains within the short range of sixty days and under.

Taking a look at 1954, purchasing executives seem to have more optimism in the outlook than they have expressed in several months. By a little more than two to one, estimates are for industrial production and orders to halt the gradual decline and even strengthen somewhat beginning in the first quarter and going through most of the second quarter. No sharp up-swing is indicated, but the predominant opinion is that business will be "fairly good" for the period, although below 1953. Approximately one-third, seeing a continuance of the decline, consider there are further adjustments to be made, but with no depression in sight.

As to prices, majority view is that more weakness will develop as the fight for orders steps up already sharp competition in a buyers' market.

Plans for 1954 capital expenditures are optimistic. 36% forecast substantially higher commitments for the year. 28% expect to spend the same amount in 1954. The general comment of the 36% budgeting lower than 1953 is that capital goods projects started in 1952 and 1953 are now complete or nearing completion. A few report waiting for more definite business trends to develop before making plans. Again in 1954, as in 1953, most planned capital expenditures are for modernization of facilities rather than capacity expansion.

The Industrial commodity price structure shows no more strength than in the past three months — slightly on the weak side. Price testing is increasing, with many more quotations open, indicating a stronger trend to negotiation of price and terms. Concessions have been small, but forward commitments are limited, as purchasing expects further weakness.

Production and maintenance inventories of purchased materials are sharply down, accentuating the trend of the past several months. Part of this is the normal stock reduction for end-of-year inventories. Turn-over rates are higher; items are in better balance with each other and with production schedules. Some report inventory liquidation goals have been reached. Overall, industry appears to be in a healthy position regarding unworked material inventories.

Further payroll reductions due to layoffs and lower working hours are reported in December. Holiday speed-up is over and industrial employment is reacting to the more normal seasonal conditions. Unskilled help is generally available, as are skilled workers in several areas. Replacements are either not being made or are on a more selective basis.

In line with conservative inventory policy, price weakness, order and production cutbacks, and short lead time for deliveries, buying policy continues "hand-to-mouth" to sixty days for the majority of purchased materials. A very slight movement into the ninety day bracket is noted, not strong enough to indicate a change in the trend.

Lower prices predominate the December price movement. Percentage-wise, reductions are very small—numerically, they outnumber the price increases.

REPORTED UP IN THE U.S.A.: Coated abrasives, cobalt, paper bags, magnesium, mercury, paraffin wax, soap, rosin, rubber.

ON THE DOWN SIDE IN THE U.S.A.: Alcohol, ammonia, 1953 automobiles, benzol, coal, coke, cotton, linters, gasoline, glycol, grinding wheels, light fuel oil, linseed, soya and castor oils, sulphate, sugar, tin (up and down), textiles.

FEW ITEMS HARD TO GET: Aluminum and magnesium extrusion, nickel, seamless pipe, polyethylene (but easing), structural steel.

Canadian reports, highly influenced by seasonal conditions, reveal a marked lowering of production and new orders for December, quite a bit more than in the U.S. Commodity prices, however, are stronger and better maintained. Inventories are declining faster. Employment took a sharp slide-off, more so than in the United States. Buying policy, though of longer range, shows definite signs of contraction. Opinion of 1954 is about in line with that of the United States except prices are expected to be firmer. Budgets for capital goods are higher than in 1953; much of it for expansion.

CONCLUSION

In closing, may I express to you, Sir, on behalf of the Members and Officers of the Provincial Market Board our sincere appreciation of your interest and counsel, and to your Deputy Minister and other Officials of this Department our thanks for their unfailing courtesy and assistance.

To Officials of many other Departments of Government we extend thanks for their co-operation.

Our sincere thanks are also tendered to the Mayors and Municipal Officials including Industrial Commissioners of Cities and Towns for the information they have so willingly provided and which forms a large portion of this report.

The kindness of Manufacturers, Wholesalers and Retailers of the Province in furnishing statistical information is here acknowledged and appreciated.

The personnel of the Provincial Marketing Board deem it both a privilege and a pleasure to feel that, under your direction, they have been enabled to extend Governmental assistance to a number of Industries, making it possible for them to continue—and in some cases to expand—their operations. This assistance therefore has enlarged employment opportunities for Alberta citizens and increased the utilization of some of the Province's natural resources.

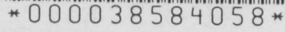
These efforts will be continued in the year which lies ahead.

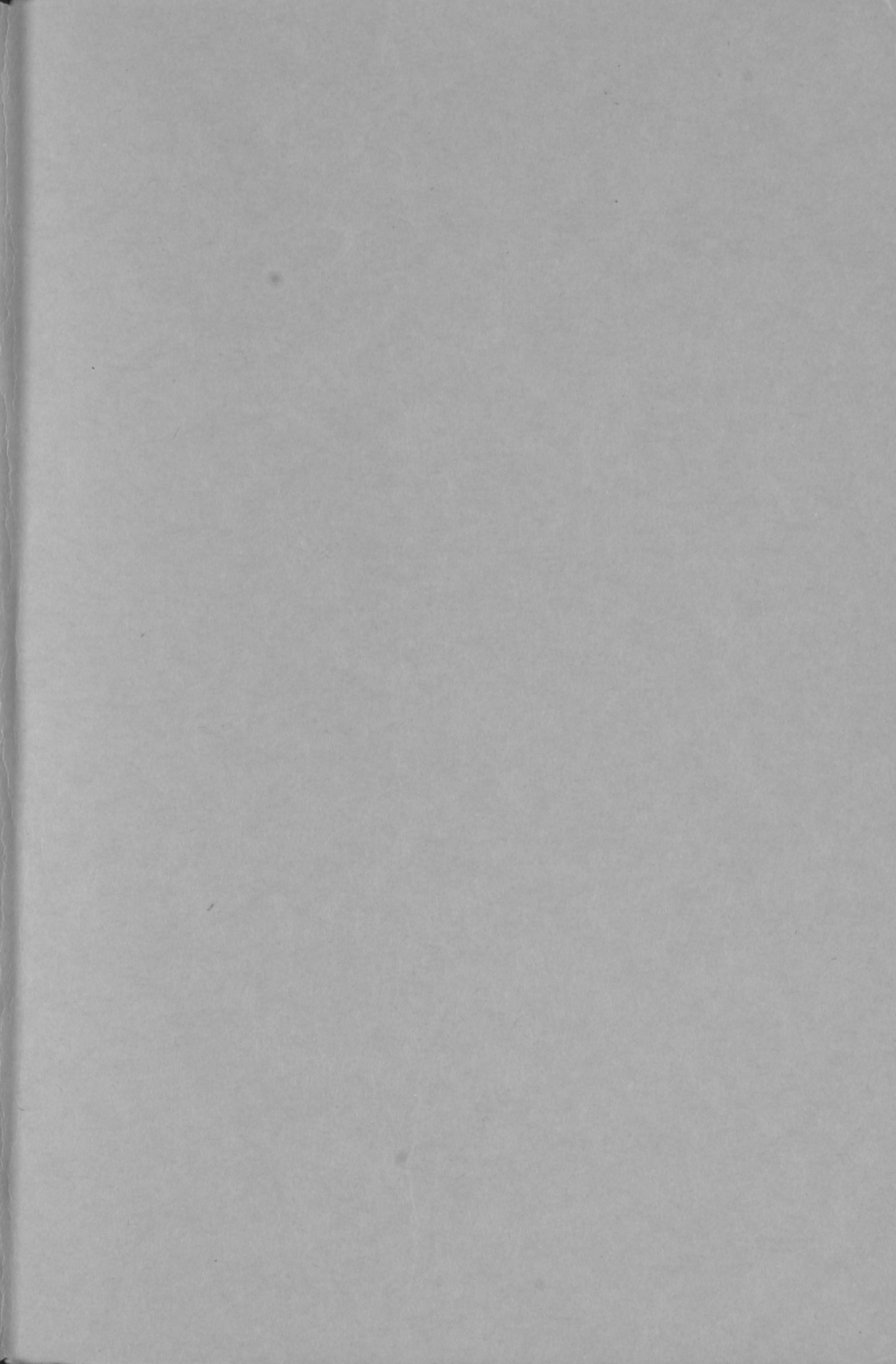
Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE A. CLASH,

Chairman, Provincial Marketing Board.

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